Volume XXII, Issue No. 53

SATURDAY - SUNDAY MARCH 3-4, 2012

www.saipantribune.com 50¢

## By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO REPORTER

## **OPINION METER**

#### This week's poll:

Which do you prefer: Precinct-level representatives or islandwide representatives?

Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

## INSIDE

## **BUSINESS**



The American economy may finally be building momentum in the other ➤ PAGE 13

## **WORLD**



Syrian rebels make what they call a "tactical retreat" from a key district in Homs. **➤ PAGE 16** 

## **GOOD HOUSEKEEPING**



Jonathan and Megan knew that they wanted something modern for ➤ PAGE 19 their new house.

## Basa pre-files original version of CHC line of credit bill

Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan) pre-filed anew on Thursday afternoon the original

version of his \$11.58 million line of credit bill for the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., a few hours after meeting with CHC medical staff and Senate members

original bill.

Basa, in an interview yesterday, said he could not accept the Senate's substitute version of his HB 17-278 because who passed a substitute version of his it is not only unconstitutional for con-

taining different subject matters but also ended up giving a line of credit that's half of \$10 million he and his co-authors originally intended.

See BASA on Page 4

# **CW-1 visa applications** now available for \$150



By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

orkers in the CNMI who have already been granted Commonwealth-only worker status may now apply for a CW visa at the U.S. Embassy in Manila to be able to re-enter the CNMI after a vacation or emergency exit, among other things.

ON THE NET ➤ http://manila.

The U.S. Embassy in Manila is now providing application services for CW-1 and CW-2 visa applications for a fee of \$150 each.

CW visas may be issued only after CW petitions have been filed with and are approved by U.S. Citi-

usembassy.gov/

cnmi-visas.html

zenship and Immigration Services. Information about the CW visa application is available at the U.S. Embassy's website at http://manila.

See VISA on Page 4

## 60-plus students, 6 schools vie for mock trial trophy

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com

Six teams from private and public high schools in the Commonwealth gave exceptional performances in the preliminary and semifinal rounds of the annual mock trial competition yesterday at the

Guma Hustisia. Heather Kennedy, the CNMI Bar Association's event coordinator, said that more than 60 high school students joined the competition this year. As of 5pm

See 60-PLUS on Page 4

## **STARTING 'EM YOUNG**

With a soccer ball in hand, Joaquina M. Rabauliman Head Start Center student Moira Grace Ernest runs toward the end of the relay race during the soccer clinic hosted by the Saipan Soccer School on Wednesday. Some 100 young learners can look forward to enjoying the soccer school's monthly soccer drills aimed at developing coordination, teamwork, and interest in the sport.

PSS wants a higher budget for fiscal year 2013. PAGE 2 Bellas: Nakamoto admitted he stole \$400K. PAGE 5

## Local

## PSS wants a higher budget for fiscal year 2013

## » \$33.9M for personnel, \$4M for utilities, \$2.1 for all others, operation

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

The CNMI Public School System is seeking a higher budget from the local government in fiscal year 2013, which starts on Oct. 1 this year.

From the current allotment of just \$30 million, the Board of Education approved Thursday the submission of a \$40-million budget proposal to the Executive Branch. The amount is higher than what PSS asked for in fiscal year 2012, \$36 million, which was later reduced to \$30 million.

According to Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, \$4 million of the proposed \$40 million will be used to pay for utilities. Based on PSS' records, its utility bills amount to

\$400,000 each month, or over \$4 million in a 12-month period.

Saipan Tribune learned that the bulk of the proposed budget will go toward personnel costs at \$33.9 million.

Sablan disclosed Thursday that PSS has about 900 personnel that are paid from local appropriation. These include certified and non-certified em-

The remaining \$2.1 million will be used for school operations and other needs.

Board member Herman T. Guerrero described the \$40 million proposal as what the PSS really needs to operate and survive next fiscal year. Whether the system will get the amount or not will depend on the "wisdom of the Legislature," he added.

Since the government projects its revenue to remain stagnant at \$102 million next fiscal year, Guerrero hinted that the request may not actually be realized. He stressed, however, that inadequate funding for PSS will force the board to make "painful decisions" in order to continue school operations.

In keeping with her positive outlook, board chair Marylou Ada told colleagues: "We will survive. We just have to live within our means and seek other sources of funding.'

Guerrero pointed out that PSS, contrary to the belief of some legislators, has not overspent in more than 10 years. "I don't know where they [lawmakers] are getting their information or what kind of figures they're looking [because] our audits are basically clean in the past years," he said.

Early this week, Sablan and

her leadership and management teams presented to the board different options the board may take if a worst-case scenario happens on the PSS budget. Among these proposals is an across-the-board work-hour cut among PSS personnel.

#### What conservation?

Board member Tanya King described as "very interesting" her finding that the air-conditioning at the Legislature's Senate

chamber continues to run at full blast, in contrast to the government's call for conservation and austerity.

"I was wondering, where are the conservation efforts at the highest level?" asked King, adding that she wants to invite lawmakers to PSS to witness what efforts are being done to cut costs, hoping the Legislature will adopt the same measures.

Since last month, PSS has been implementing an acrossthe-board energy conservation policy that includes limited airconditioning hours at all levels. The goal is to save up to 45 percent in energy consumption until the end of the fiscal year.

PSS also relocated its central offices and the board last year to an owned property at the Marianas High School, saving the system \$250,000 a year on rent and utilities. It also increased class sizes to maximize personnel and school resources.

## Inos, budget analysts to meet with department heads on 2013 budget

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO REPORTER

Acting governor Eloy S. Inos and budget analysts from the Office of Management Budget will be meeting with department heads and division directors starting next week to discuss their fiscal year 2013 budget submissions and their handling of federal funds.

Virginia Villagomez, the governor's special assistant for management and budget, gave a Feb. 29 deadline for agencies to submit their budget requests.

Most of the eight that did not meet the deadline were able to submit their spending plan a day or two later.

"The purpose of the meeting is to review your submission to determine whether department/agency maximized the use of federal funds within program authority in times of serious financial and cash constraints specifically those that are dependent on locally generated revenues," Villagomez said in a notice to departments and activity heads.

At least 21 agencies have so far been scheduled for meetings between March 12 and 16, although March 8 is available for coordination with OMB and March 19 is open for independent programs.

During the scheduled meetings this month, agency or activity heads are asked to be present along with their division directors and point of contacts for all their federal programs.

They are also asked to bring with them a separate summary listing prepared for all federally funded programs.

Inos, in an interview Thursday, reiterated that the Fitial administration is still looking at a \$102 million budget for fiscal year 2013, similar to fiscal year 2012.

The governor has until April 1 to submit his 2013 budget request to the Legislature. Without a budget passed by Oct. 1, the government will have to shut down until a new budget is passed.



## TROPICAL BLOOM

A car passes by bougainvilleas in full bloom along Airport Road yesterday, an everyday sight this time of the year in this tropical vacation destination that also boasts of beautiful beaches, crystal clear blue waters, and historical attractions. The Marianas Visitors Authority reported a 6-percent increase in tourist arrivals to the CNMI, or from 31,572 in December 2010 to 33,418 in December 2011.

## Woman arrested for alleged car jack attack

Police arrested Monday morning a woman who allegedly assaulted a former boyfriend with a car jack and pulled the hair of his current girlfriend at a house in San Vicente.

Jeanette Awas, 32, was taken to the Superior Court Thursday afternoon for an initial court hearing on charges of assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho imposed a \$6,500 cash bail on Awas and allowed her to file a motion to modify bail. Camacho appointed assistant public defender Daniel Guidotti as counsel for Awas.

Preliminary hearing will be on Wednesday, March 7, at 9am.

Police detective Flora Danica B. Aguon stated in her report that the former boyfriend was inside his house in San Vicente with his girlfriend Monday when Awas came in at 9am.

Awas confronted the girlfriend and allegedly pulled her hair. The former boyfriend tried to stop Awas. As the girlfriend was calling 911 for help, Awas grabbed the phone, causing it to fall and break.

Awas went outside the house

and returned with a car jack that she allegedly used to hit her former boyfriend all over the body. The former boyfriend sustained scratches on the right arm and complained of pain all over his body.

Responding police officers brought to the Commonwealth Health Center for evaluation Awas' two minor children, who were waiting inside her van at the time.

After arresting Awas, police released the children to the custody of her former boyfriend, who is the minors' biological father. (Ferdie de la Torre)

## Tinian man gets 6 months for 'ice' possession

A Tinian resident facing "ice" trafficking charges has pleaded guilty to possession of controlled substance and was sentenced to six months in prison.

In a hearing on Tinian last week, Superior Court associate judge Kenneth Govendo accepted Kurt King's guilty plea and sentenced him to two years, all suspended except for six months, with credit for the seven days he has already

start serving his sentence on March 15, 2012.

After completing his prison term, King will be placed on probation for two years. He was ordered to pay a \$100 fine, and all court costs, and probation fees.

King agreed to testify at any trial involving his co-defendant, Byron Dela Cruz.

The Office of the Attorney General had charged King with trafficking of a controlled sub- buy \$100 worth of "ice" from

controlled substance, and conspiracy to commit trafficking of a controlled substance.

According to the plea agreement, King was caught in possession of crystal methamphetamine on March 25, 2010, on Tinian.

Members of the CNMI's joint Drug Enforcement Task Force arrested King and Dela Cruz in April 2010 after a "cooperating source" allegedly managed to

## The 31-year-old King will stance, illegal possession of a the two. (Ferdie de la Torre) Nominations for 2012 Businesswoman of the Year now open

First Hawaiian Bank and Guam Business Magazine are seeking nominations for the 7th annual Businesswoman of the Year Maga'Haga award. Nominees must be residents of Guam or the Northern Mariana Islands.

Nominees should meet the following criteria: a businesswoman who has made a significant difference in the industry through her organization or her business; a woman who has contributed to her community; a woman who is a leading representative of her profession or field; a woman who displays the best qualities of one in business.

The deadline for nominations is March 6. Judges will come from leading civic and women's organizations in the Mariana Islands. The award will be announced at the Businesswoman of the Year Gala on April 28.

The Gala is also a fundraiser for the Businesswoman of the Year scholarship program. The scholarships, open to both fulltime and part-time college students, are intended to promote higher education by providing financial assistance to college students pursuing professional careers in business or a related field who are enrolled at the University of Guam, Guam Community College or Northern Marianas College.

The 2011 Businesswoman of the Year Maga'Haga award recipient was Joyce Quinata Crisostomo, executive director of Cars Plus and president of Payless Car Rental.

For more information or to submit a nomination, contact Frank Whitman, managing editor, Guam BusinessMagazine at (671) 649-0883 Ext. 126 or managingeditor@glimpsesofguam.com or Lourdes Sanchez, sales and marketing manager, First Hawaiian Bank at (671) 475-7853 or lsanchez@fhb. com. (PR)

## Fishery managers to take up marine monument fishing regs

The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, which makes recommendations to the Secretary of Commerce for the management of fisheries in federal waters surround the U.S. Pacific Islands, convenes on Monday, March 5, from 8:30am to 5pm, and on March 6, from 9am to 5pm at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan in the CNMI and on March 8, from 8:30am to 5pm and on March 9, from 9am to 5pm, at the Hilton

Guam Resort and Spa, Tumon can Samoa) and Pacific Remote Bay, Guam.

Joining the council members from the State of Hawaii and the U.S. Territories of CNMI, Guam, and American Samoa will be National Marine Fisheries Service acting administrator Sam Rauch.

One of the key agenda items for the meeting is the draft fishery management measures for the Marianas Trench (CNMI and Guam), Rose Atoll (Ameri-

Island Area (Howland, Baker and Jarvis Islands: Johnston. Wake and Palmyra Atolls; and Kingman Reef) Marine National Monuments.

The existing draft measures provide a basis for identifying customary exchange as important to traditional indigenous fishing in the region.

NMFS has suggested that the Council consider revising the definition to exclude, or clearly

limit, cost recovery of trip expenses as well as consider imposing bag limits for non-commercial fishing.

NMFS has also suggested that the council consider clarifying the definition of "noncommercial fishing" to specify that traditional indigenous fishing is limited to traditionally and culturally significant fishing practices in existence at the time the monuments were established.

In addition, NMFS recommended that the no-fishing zones around the Pacific Remote Island Areas, as currently drafted, are inconsistent with the proclamations, particularly with respect to Palmyra Atoll where noncommercial fishing is currently permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Other major agenda items are options for an American Samoa shallow-set longline fishery and Western and Central Pacific bigeye tuna management as well as issues related to existing and po-

tential future impacts to fishing communities from military activities in the Mariana archipelago. Fishers Forums on Climate Change will be held from 6pm to 9pm on March 5 at the Saipan Fiesta Resort and 6pm to 9pm on March 8 at the Hilton Guam Resort. The public is invited to attend these informational and public discussion sessions. For more complete agendas, visit www.wpcouncil.org or contact the Council at info.wpcouncil@ noaa.gov or by phone at (808) 522-8220. (WESPAC)

## NMC confirms submission of budget

The Northern Marianas College confirmed yesterday that it had submitted its 2013 budget request on the date it was due to the Governor's Office.

In a statement, NMC said it was incorrectly reported Thursday that NMC was one of the agencies that had failed to meet the Feb. 29, 2012 submission deadline.

The Northern Marianas College Board of Regents had voted earlier to adopt NMC's 2013 Appropriations Budget Request in the amount of \$8 million.

The board also voted to include a separate budget request of \$1.5 million for the Apprenticeship Program.

"For more than 30 years, the Northern Marianas College has played a central, critical role in the CNMI by helping residents advance academically and professionally," said Juan T. Lizama, chairman of the Board of Regents. "The budget request that we are transmitting to the Governor's Office and the Legislature ensures that the college continues to serve in this very important capacity."

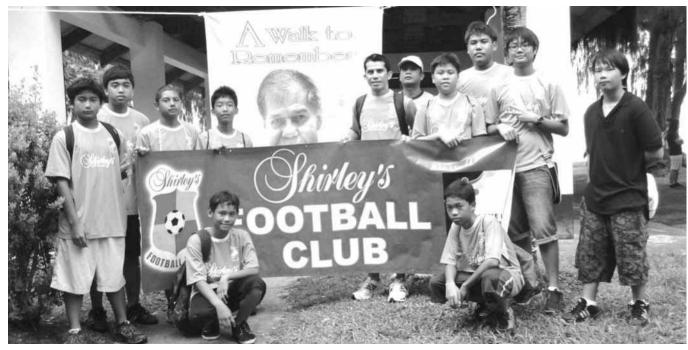
"The amount we are requesting represents the bare bones minimum to ensure that the college maintains the high quality of instruction and student services it provides to its students," said Lizama. "Equally important, it will allow the college to meet accreditation standards and requirements."

The \$8 million will be used primarily to fund personnel salaries and benefits for faculty and staff. It will also be used to pay for utility expenses.

"It's important to note that the budget we are requesting represents an average amount that our peer institutions have received in state support in terms of per student allocation," said NMC president Sharon Y. Hart.

Earlier, the college reported that a peer comparison study found that legislative funding for NMC is significantly less when compared to the amount spent by many other states and peer institutions on a perstudent basis; national and regional data also supports this finding.

The requested amount also ensures that NMC meets maintenance-of-effort requirements from certain federal grants. (NMC)



Shirley's Coffee Shop's U15 Football Club players and coach Fradel Sedillo pose after taking part in last Saturday's JP Walk.



Shirley's Coffee Shop staff joins Shirley's U15 Football Club players in a group photo after taking part in last Saturday's JP Walk.

## 9th Circuit affirms sentence imposed in 'ice' case

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

the Ninth Circuit has affirmed the seven-year-and-one-month sentence imposed by the federal court on a woman who was convicted of possessing "ice" with intent to distribute and for violating probation conditions.

The Ninth Circuit determined that the U.S. District Court for the NMI followed sentencing guidelines and their rationale in running defendant Julita Aldan Sablan's sentence consecutively, in order to ensure that Sablan was "punished both for breaching the court's trust and for the new criminal conduct, as each act is separately and distinctively offensive."

The district court properly

noted that Sablan had committed the same offense for which she was already on supervised issued Wednesday

The Ninth Circuit judges said that that factor was relevant because a "violator who, after committing an offense and being placed on supervised release for that offense, again commits a similar offense is not only more likely to continue on that path, but also has demonstrated to the court that the violator has little respect for its command."

"The court's explanation makes clear that it appropriately considered Sablan's underlying offense in order to calculate the likelihood of recidivism and evaluate the scope of the breach of trust,"

the Ninth Circuit judges said.

In November 2010, U.S. District Court for the NMI desig-The U.S. Court of Appeals for release, according to the Ninth nated judge Mark W. Bennett U.S. Probation Office to pro-Circuit judges in their decision sentenced Sablan to 70 months vide greater rehabilitation asin prison for possession of "ice" with intent to distribute and 15 months for violating supervised release conditions.

The judge ordered that the sentences will be served consecutively for a total of 85 months (seven years and one month).

It was Sablan's third convic-

Sablan, through counsel George Anthony Long, appealed to the Ninth Circuit to reverse the sentence.

In affirming the sentence, the Ninth Circuit judges pointed out that it was substantively reasonable. The Ninth Circuit judges said that Bennett's de-

cision not to award a larger downward variance based on the alleged failure of the sistance does not approach a "clear error of judgment."

The Ninth Circuit judges said the application of the career criminal enhancement to Sablan was also reasonable.

The judges said the career offender enhancement is not reserved for "major dealers" and Sablan's below guideline sentence "cannot be deemed unreasonable when her prior felony offenses bring her within the guidelines as a career offender."

Further, the Ninth Circuit judges noted. Bennett did reduce Sablan's sentence to reflect the unusually low quantity of drugs at issue.

## IMMIGRATION LAW

## Bruce L. Mailman Maya B. Kara

Available services include

- U.S. Permanent Residence (Green Card)
- U.S. Naturalization/Citizenship
- Employment Based U.S. Visas (H1B, H2B, L1, EB1, E1, E2, and others)
- Status Clarification

## Call for Appointment (670) 233-0081

Law Offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC Corner of Beach Road and Cpl. Derence Jack R., Garapan, Saipan

# **BOE** approves developing policy to protect whistleblowers

By MONETH G. DEPOSA moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com

Public School System whistleblowers will soon be protected following the decision of the Board of Education to approve the development of a policy that would ensure the safety of employees who will come forward with complaints and/or allegations about inappropriate practices within the school system.

By 5-0 vote, board chair Marylou S. Ada directed the board's fiscal and personnel affairs committee on Thursday to create such a policy for the board's action at its next meeting. A two-week timeframe was given to the board's legal counsel, Kelly Butcher, to submit a draft policy or legal analysis on the issue to the panel.

Board member Galvin Deleon Guerrero, who recommended the motion during Thursday's meeting, earlier urged his colleagues to put a policy

in place that will ensure protection of whistleblowers after concerns were raised about the ability of PSS employees to come forward with complaints of improper practices within the system.

Creating such policy, he believes, will prevent the creation of a climate of fear within PSS or retaliation against employees.

"I believe that the PSS needs policies and procedures that can protect such employees. Policies and procedures that protect employees will help hold the school system accountable and prevent any climate of fear from emerging within the system," Deleon Guerrero earlier told *Saipan Tribune*.

Earlier this year, the education board discovered that some non-certified PSS personnel improperly cashed out their annual leave. This came to light after former Saipan Southern High School principal Craig Garrison informed the board of the existence of this improper practice.

## EMO warns of strong winds this weekend

Based on the information received from the National Weather Service in Tiyan, Guam and compiled by the CNMI Emergency Management, fresh to strong trade winds and combined seas of 9 to 10 feet will persist through the weekend.

A small craft advisory is now in effect through Saturday morning. From Saturday night to Tuesday, northeast wind is projected at 20 knots, with

wind waves of 4-6 feet and a northeast swell of 6-8 feet. On Wednesday, an east wind is projected at 15 knots, with wind waves of 3-5 feet and a northeast swell of 7-8 feet.

EMO is strongly advising the general public to avoid venturing near exposed reefs and beaches, especially those along east facing reefs where rip currents will be hazardous. (EMO)

## 60-PLUS

From Page 1

yesterday, teams were still at it, with the awarding rites scheduled to follow the final round.

Yesterday's competition was opened by Associate Justice John A. Manglona, Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, and Kennedy, who signaled the competition proper at 8:30am.

The mock trial competition is an annual contest organized by the Bar Association in collaboration with the Public School System. Kennedy said that yesterday's success is shared with association members and the Judiciary who stepped up and served as judges and jurors for the competition.

Members of defending champion Marianas Baptist Academy were all dressed to the nines, hopeful of a repeat victory. Their principal, Ramir Trinidad, said that the group has been preparing for the competition since the start of the school year. If lucky, this will be the school's third time to win the championship since 2009.

"I have seen their commitment, their sacrifices, and all their hard work since day one. I am confident and very proud of the MBA team," said Trinidad.

MBA's title will be defended by Kenny Sung Eun An, Jodel Fernandez, Se Young Hwang, Dong Hee Im, Young Eun Lee, Manatsu Omori, Eunice Park, and Han Sol Yu. Their coaches include teacher Paul Murphy and attorneys Jennifer Dockter and Adam Hardwicke.

In a visit to the various courtrooms yesterday, the teams of Mount Carmel School and Marianas High School were facing off on Court 202 before presiding judge Timothy Bellas. On the bench sides were each team's members and supporters led by Galvin Deleon

Guerrero for MCS and Dr. Chas Algaier for the other group.

Members of the MCS team include Victor Manuel Cabrera, Lourence Jason Camacho, Ann Gelika Elenzano, Andrea Grace Manese, Ji Min Ryu, Anastasia Rose Schweiger, and Dominic Travilla. Their coaches include Deleon Guerrero, Lourdes Mendiola, and attorney Joseph Taijeron Jr.

The MHS team is composed of Antonio Cabrera, Rachel Cabrera, Aurora David, Deveney Dela Cruz, Maria Dizon, Mike Johnson, Matthew Lopez, Jimon Necesito, Michelle Ngirbabul, and Vinni Orsini. They are guided by coaches Algaier, Donald Cohen, and attorney Russell Lorfing.

Also doing their best in the preliminary rounds yesterday were Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr. and Sr. High School's Maricel Atalig, Randee-jo Barcinas, Zahra Frazier, Jose Ignacio Lizama, Audrey Manglona, Mona Sierra Manglona, Maisie Mesngon, Austin Delos Santos, and Atta Suzuki. Their coaches are Donald Manglona, Tonica Barcinas and attorneys Daniel Bednarski and Quynchi Nguyen.

The team of Saipan Southern High School include Katrina Cruz, Anna Rose Deleon Guerrero, Emily Dewitt, Lallane Guiao, Yong Jeong Kim, Hye Young Oh, Katrina Punzalan, Tiara Villagomez, and Yoshihiro Yagi. Coaches are Andrew Golden and Cheryl Indalecio.

The Tinian Jr. & Sr. High School team is composed of Seoyeon Ahn, Alonica Anore, Leilani Conanan, Shitong Cheng, Ervin Cruz, Chloe Hosfchneider, Kyle Sanbergen, and Yun Ha Seo. Their coaches are John Suffin and attorney Lucy Blanco-Maratita.

This year's champion will fly to Albuquerque, New Mexico in May to represent the CNMI in the 29th Annual National High School Mock Trial Competition.

## **BASA**

From Page 1

He said he decided to pre-file HB 17-286, the original version of HB 17-278, so that when the House rejects the Senate substitute, he could readily introduce his new bill for House action and submission to the Senate.

Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), chairman of the Senate Committee on Health, said yesterday that the Senate is just waiting for the House's action on HB 17-278, SS1 and HB 17-261, SS1.

As of yesterday, Torres said the Senate will not reconsider its action on the two bills it substituted.

Basa, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, said there is still no schedule for the next House session. The Senate will hold a session on March 7 at 4pm.

If it were up to him, Basa said he would like the House to reject the Senate versions of the House bills and pass his HB 17-286 instead.

When asked whether it would be a waste of time if the Senate would again substitute his HB 17-286 once it passes the House, Basa said he hopes the Senate will now have a different view.

"As I said on Thursday, the Senate's intention to help other agencies such as CUC and PSS is noble but let's separate these issues and come up with separate bills," he said.

Basa's HB 17-278 was substituted by the Senate and ended up giving a \$5 million line of credit to CHC from the Marianas Public Land Trust in-



HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

From left, Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) and Dr. Chad Lowe from the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. talk to each other after a Thursday meeting on Capital Hill between Senate and House members, acting governor Eloy S. Inos and CHC medical staff and private doctors mainly to discuss an \$11.58 million line of credit bill that still pending in the Legislature amid worsening financial condition at the hospital.

stead of \$10 million. The other \$1.58 million became a loan for CHC's electronic health information technology initiative.

The Senate wanted the other \$5 million for the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. Of this amount, \$3.5 million would be payment for the Public School System's \$3.5 million outstanding obligations to CUC and the remaining \$1.5 million would be for CHC's debt to CUC.

Senators and acting governor Eloy S. Inos said that without payments to CUC, it would cut off power to CHC and PSS. The second bill the Senate substituted intends to make up for the lost money available to CHC in the first bill.

Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan), one of the co-authors of HB 17-278, said he supports the Senate version of the bill and respects Basa's decision to pre-file the original version of the bill.

Lawmakers, Inos, and CHC medical staff met Thursday to discuss the two bills, but House and Senate members did not agree on what to do with the two measures. In that meeting, some medical staff asked lawmakers to stop micromanaging CHC and stop playing politics that delays the availability of financial help for the corporation so that it could timely pay its employee, pay its vendors, and buy medical supplies and equipment to help treat patients.

## **VISA**

From Page 1

usembassy.gov/cnmi-visas.html

U.S. embassies in other countries where other foreign workers in the CNMI originally come from still do not have CW visa application services posted on their websites as of yesterday afternoon.

"The transitional worker and investor visas are valid only for entrance into the CNMI. Visa holders cannot use these visas to travel to or work anywhere else in the United States. However, Filipino transitional workers will be allowed to transit through Guam to the CNMI on their visa," the U.S. Embassy in Manila said on its website.

For Filipino workers in the CNMI, the availability of a CW visa application service at the U.S. embassy in their country of origin is welcome relief.

A 32-year-old worker from the Philippines whose CW petition was approved in December 2011 said yesterday she's relieved to know that the U.S. Embassy in Manila is now providing services for those who wish to apply for a CW visa.

The worker, who started working on Saipan in 2005, has been planning to go on vacation but couldn't finalize her travel dates until she gets a confirmed online appointment with the U.S. Embassy in Manila to apply for a CW visa that will allow her to re-enter the CNMI.

Immigration system changes in the CNMI and the local economy have taken their toll on foreign workers' vacation plans.

Rene Reyes, founding president of the Marianas Advocates for Humani-

tarian Affairs Ltd. or Mahal, said yesterday that in his 23 years on Saipan, this has been the only time when he has not heard of many Filipino workers wanting to go on vacation, except for emergency reasons such as a death in the family or medical treatment.

"The uncertainty over immigration status is a major reason. People do not want to take the risk of not being able to re-enter the CNMI after going offisland until federalization issues are resolved. But it's good that people can now apply for a CW visa in Manila if they have already gotten their CW status. But even federal officials said that having a CW status or permit is not a 100 percent guarantee that you will get a CW visa when you apply for it," Reyes told *Saipan Tribune*.

Foreign workers in the CNMI with pending CW petitions have been applying for, and been granted, advance parole, which costs \$360 to be able to re-enter the CNMI.

Bong Malasarte, president of the United Filipino Organization, separately said that another reason for the drastic decline in the number of Filipino workers going on vacation is the slow economy's negative impact on their finances.

"We all know that the economy is bad, and people are trying to hold on to their dollars," said Malasarte, referring to work hour cuts, federal taxes that Filipino workers now have to pay, and increased costs of gas, utilities, and other consumer goods and services.

CW and E-2c are new visa categories created pursuant to U.S. Public Law 110-229, which placed CNMI immigration under federal control.

These visas are solely for people who are already working in and living in the CNMI, and will be valid

until Dec. 31, 2014, when the transition period ends.

CW-1 classification refers to transitional workers who are legally present in the CNMI at the time of the approval of the petition.

CW-2 classification, meanwhile, refers to spouses and unmarried children under 18 years old of CW-1 beneficiaries. CW-2 visa holders are not eligible to work in the CNMI.

An E-2C classification refers to foreign investors who were lawfully admitted to the CNMI before Nov. 28, 2009, under CNMI investor status. The three sub-categories for this classification are long-term investor, foreign investor, and retiree investor.

Unlike the CW-1 and CW-2 visa applications, the fee for an E-2C visa application is \$390.

## How to apply

In addition to the basic documentary requirements for a visa, the principal applicant for a CW-1 or E-2C visa must present a copy of the I-129CW petition, and an original or copy of the I-797 form.

For dependent spouses and children, the following must be submitted in addition to the basic requirements:

- 1. Copy of principal applicant's current nonimmigrant CW-1 or E-2C visa (if following to join);
- 2. Copy of principal applicant's I-129CW petition and I-797 form;
- 3. Marriage certificate issued on Philippine National Statistics Office (NSO) security paper for spouses; and
- 4. Birth certificate(s) issued on Philippine National Statistics Office (NSO) security paper for eligible unmarried children.

In some cases, additional documents may be requested.

## Bellas: Nakamoto admitted he stole \$400K from Anaks

## TAGS thanks Candyland sponsors

Guardian Society or TAGS, the CNMI's turtle conservation non-profit organization, would like to express their sincere gratitude to all the sponsors, donors, as well as everyone who joined in on the festivities for making the Candyland party one of TAGS' most successful fundraisers yet.

Organized by Bernard Rivera, hosted by Docomo's Nola Hix, and inspired by Katy Perry's music video California Gurls and the Hasbro board game Candyland, "As Sweet as Candyland" was an event to remember. The crowd was in an uproar the entire night with the auction, musical men, costume contest, and other fun games and prizes.

TAGS has much more in store, including a recruitment dinner, an islandwide art contest for students, and the TAGS semi-annual Art Gala. Also, TAGS is gearing up for turtle season and is looking for volunteers to join the beach

The Turtle Advocate and walks and help with other turtle conservation projects. Go to the TAG's Facebook page for further details.

> "Thank you again to everyone who was a part of making the fundraiser party such a successful event! And a very special thanks to our sponsors. We can't emphasize enough how vital it has been to have the partnership of our local businesses and the continued support of our wonderful community and volunteers. We look forward to seeing everyone out at the beach walks and our other events. It should be a very exciting turtle season," said TAGS QuynhChi Nguyen.

> TAGS sponsors include Godfather's Bar, PIC, DFS, Monika's Furniture, Docomo Pacific, Seventh Day Adventist, Marpac, Marianas Trekking, Serenity Salon & Spa, Marianas Resort & Spa, IT&E, Casa Urashima, Megabyte, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Advance Language & Academic Institute, and Sweet Escape. (PR)

## **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

## Air Force training on Farallon de Medinilla

The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on March 5-9, from 7am to 5pm. The general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators—are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated. The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants. (PR)

## Police chief Mafnas on Marianas Agupa!

This Saturday, March 3, 2012, Marianas Agupa will feature Public Safety Commissioner Ray Mafnas to talk about the challenges and success of the CNMI police department and the investigation status on the case involving Emie Romero's killing earlier this month between 10am and 10:30am. The show is from 9am to 11am on Magic

The Chamorro radio talk show program is hosted by Glenn H. Manglona with reports by former mayor Joseph S. Inos, Thomas D. Mendiola, a special segment called Hafa Mohon with Juanita Mendiola, and David M. Cing. Simultaneous Internet streaming via www.magic100radio.com will be available. (PR)

## **DEQ brigade cleanup at Hidden Beach today**

The Division of Environmental Quality's cleanup brigade will be picking up trash at Hidden Beach in Talafofu, Saipan today, March 3, 2012, starting at 8am. If you would like to volunteer, meet the DEQ representatives on Saturday at the Kingfisher Golf entrance. Volunteers will split into groups and clean until 10am and break for drinks and then continue, if needed. For more information about volunteering, contact the DEO office at 664-8500/1. (DEO)

## **General farmers meeting**

The Department of Lands and Natural Resources will be hosting a general farmers meeting for the election of new administrators for the Saipan and Northern Islands Soil and Water Conservation District. The term of office for the new administrators is from fiscal year 2012 to 2015. The meeting will be held at the Kagman Division of Agriculture station on Wednesday, March 14, 2012, from 10am to 11:30am. For more information, call 256-3319 and ask for Diana Gabaldon. (PR)

## KHS progress reports out next week

To all parents/guardians of Kagman High School: Progress reports will be issued next week Wednesday, March 7, 2012, from 3:30pm to 5:30pm. Teachers will distribute for all subjects. Please ask your child for their 1st – 4th period teachers' and classroom numbers. This will lessen your time on where to go when you are getting their progress report. It will be a regular bell schedule and there will be no half-day schedule. Students will be dismissed at 2:50pm. For more information, call the KHS office at 237-3840 or e-mail kagmanhs@ gmail.com. (PR)

The former president of Anaks Ocean View Hill Saipan, who was arrested in Japan with 16 others for alleged involvement in a fraudulent sea cucumber project, admitted in a letter that he stole roughly \$400,000 from Anaks and Anaks Homeowners Association, according to former judge Timothy H. Bellas yesterday.

Bellas said it was discovered in mid-2009 that former Anaks official Masaji Nakamoto had stolen \$400,000 from various sources, Anaks, AHA, and one of the individual Anaks owners.

Bellas said this prompted Yoshio Arino, who brought Nakamoto into the AHA and Anaks operation, to kick Nakamoto out.

Bellas said that Arino has been essentially running Anaks as the sole director without the input or votes of two other directors, Sumio Uchikawa and Namio Miura, who want to give their shares to AHA.

Bellas is counsel for Dr. Norma S. Ada and nine other owners of units in the housing complex known as Anaks Ocean View Hill Saipan in Puerto Rico, who sued Nakamoto and other members of AHA's board of directors for allegedly enriching themselves at the expense of the owners.

When asked for updates in the lawsuit, Bellas said that they will soon be going to trial unless the case is settled.

Bellas said that Superior Court associate judge Perry Inos has already ruled in September last year that Anaks violated the sublease between it and the owners when it spent the owners' maintenance fees for Anaks' corporate expenses such as maintaining an office in Japan, paying for travel expenses, legal fees, and accounting fees.

Bellas said the other major issue in the case is whether the

Anaks shares should have gone to all of the owners, to be held by AHA or to four individuals, one of whom was Nakamoto.

"It is our position that once the developer decided they no longer wanted to be involved with Anaks, then the complex should have been turned over to the owners," he said.

Japan police said Nakamoto and 16 others victimized old folk in Japan by enticing them to invest in a fraudulent sea cucumber project.

Japan police said Nakamoto claimed to be president of a company named Nanyo that has its head office on Saipan.

## Measures of economic activity for US territories to be expanded

Babauta

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs and the Department of Commerce's Bureau of Economic Analysis will expand the current measures of economic activity for American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands to include additional information to gauge territorial economic performance.

The announcement comes days after OIA and BEA jointly presented to governors and members of Congress representing U.S. insular areas at the Senior Plenary Session of the Interagency Group on Insular Areas.

In the past few years, OIA/ BEA have collected and published data for gross domestic product, gross domestic income, and their major components for each of the four territories. The work published by the federal

government was a first for the territories in the nation's history and standardizes data on par with that of the fifty states. On each island, OIA/BEA has worked collaboratively with staff from each of the territorial governments.

Along with continued publication of estimates for GDP and GDI, additional estimates will be included for the following measures:

GDP by In-(1) dustry

Compensation of Em-(2) ployees by Industry (3) Detailed Consumer

Spending

The GDP by Industry statistics will provide the insular areas with information on the share of each industry in the economy and each industry's contribution to the overall real GDP growth or decline. This

will also demonstrate how much each industry contributes to the overall inflation rate for the economy.

The Compensation of Employees by Industry statistics will provide estimates of com-

> pensation, equals wages and salaries plus supplements to wages and salaries, for major industries of the economy. These measures will be useful for tracking compensation trends for key

industries within the territorial economies.

The Detailed Consumer Spending statistics will provide additional information on the components of consumer spending, or "personal consumption expenditures," and will be available on a nominal and a real basis. These measures will show how household spending patterns

have changed over time and how the composition of goods and services purchased by households has changed.

"A critical component of the work we do here at OIA is to equip island leaders with the necessary resources to design and execute their own economic growth and development policies. Having data that is the "gold-standard" and that is nationally recognized and accessible is an essential part of realizing this," said Assistant Secretary Tony Babauta

The new measures are scheduled to be released in the summer of 2012, in conjunction with the publication of the 2010 estimates of GDP for each territory.

Information regarding insular area GDP data may be found at the following site: http:// www.bea.gov/national/index. htm#gdp. (DOI)



Northern Marianas College tourism students, instructor Larry Lee and LaoLao Bay Golf Resort staff member Randall Marcelo during their recent class field trip.

## NMC tourism students visit LaoLao Bay Golf Resort

Students from the Northern Marianas College's TS103: Introduction to the Hospitality Industry recently visited the LaoLao Bay Golf Resort in Kagman to tour the resort's outstanding hotel facility and learn about the company's

food and beverage services, recreational facilities, and resort operations.

LaoLao Bay's IT Assistant Randall Marcelo led the students on a tour of several of the various ultra-modern hotel suites and guestrooms, spa facility, restaurant, kitchen, karaoke lounge, and golf course staging area. The students were also introduced to the various career and internship opportunities and current entry-level job openings at the resort.

According to NMC instruc-

tor Larry Lee, "this type of hands-on experience really broadens our students' perspectives, especially as they learned so much about one of our premier local resort and recreational facilities, and the qualities and attitudes necessary to succeed in the tourism/ hospitality field." (NMC)

## **Opinion**



Published daily at 2/F JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBE

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

## **EDITORIAL**

# The politics of contraception

If you are poor, uninsured and a woman, it is very likely that the only health care you will receive with any regularity will be directly related to family planning, which is guaranteed by a federal law known as Title X. These free annual visits now routinely include screening for breast and cervical cancer and other health issues. Were it not for this safety net, millions of poor women would be at even greater risk.

This very basic health service, directed at a vulnerable population, is a victim of the fierce ideological battle over abortion. Specifically, the Republican-led effort to cut funding for Planned Parenthood has produced a number of measures across the country that are aimed at denying funding to any provider who can be even remotely associated with abortion clinics.

Federal and state law already prohibits taxpayer money from being spent on abortion, so this is not about the use of public funds. The underlying tactic here is to drastically curtail taxpayer funds for family planning because it would harm one of its largest providers, Planned Parenthood, whose mission, contrary to popular opinion, is overwhelmingly directed at primary care and prevention. If you can't legally close abortion clinics, goes the logic, declare economic war on the provider.

Gov. Rick Perry of Texas inadvertently acknowledged this strategy earlier this month when he said, erroneously, that his policies had led to the closing of about a dozen abortion clinics. What he and the Republican-controlled Texas legislature did last year was drastically cut funding for family planning and women's health programs. The result did not affect abortions, but it will end up denying access to contraception and health exams to as many as 180,000 poor women per year, a figure cited by the state's own health department.

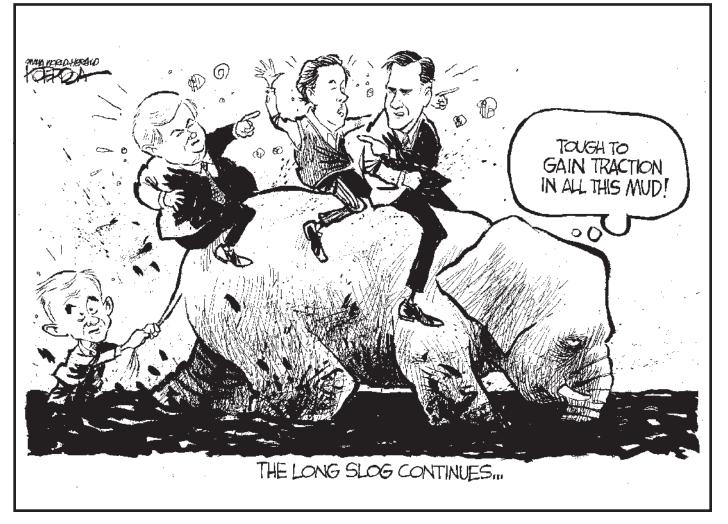
The governor drew no distinction between family planning and abortion, which again is part of the national strategy aimed at Planned Parenthood. Though obvious, it is worth noting in this context that contraception is the primary safeguard against abortions. When you deny it, particularly to poor women, the consequences are obvious.

Now there is another front in this war. A decision last week by the Texas Health and Human Services commissioner formally bans Planned Parenthood clinics and affiliates from participating in the state's Women's Health Program, which was created in 2005 to expand access to family planning services. The timing of the decision—and the politics behind it—squares with the national strategy.

There are about 130,000 low-income women enrolled in the Women's Health Program. Most of the funds come through the federal Medicaid program, which explicitly forbids states from denying benefits because a provider offers certain services. The inherent conflict threatens to kill the program because the federal government has rightly signaled that it will pull its funding.

At some level, this becomes a debate over whether women, particularly poor women, should have the right to contraception. Is that really where we want to go?

©2012 The Dallas Morning News



# Russia of the past facing Russia of future in Sunday's election

" 'm headed to Moscow this week to observe a struggle for human dignity as important as any in the Arab world.

It's no accident that Prime Minister (and-soon-to-be-third-term-President) Vladimir Putin is backing the Syrians: Both countries' leaders are men of the 20th century, clinging to the certainties of the Cold War, while a younger, Internet-savvy generation wants to live in the 21st century. That generational clash in Russia will come to a head after presidential elections Sunday.

In Russia and the Mideast, men of the past blame their countries' problems on the West to distract attention from their own failures. They control national TV so they can feed that false narrative to the hinterlands, where the Internet is less common. They use violence to crush the opposition, blatantly in Syria, intermittently in Egypt, and cleverly in Russia—where pesky journalists are murdered or beaten and activists harassed or arrested.

In Russia—a country with a rich culture, a highly educated populace, and one foot in Europe—you'd think the new generation would face better odds than in Syria or Egypt. Yet it's unclear whether Russians will have more success than their counterparts in the Mideast.

Even so, in December, large numbers of middle-class Muscovites—heretofore apolitical—suddenly took to the streets in protest. Until then, most Russians—dogged by a tragic history and a traumatic transition from communism—seemed to passively accept Putin as tsar.

Russia suffers from a level of government corruption so staggering that it undermines daily life and the economy. On Transparency International's index of official corruption (the higher the number, the more venality), Russia stands at 143, tied with Nigeria! Russia is worse than even Syria (129), Egypt (112), and Tunisia (73).

But, as in Tunisia, where the self-immolation of a frustrated fruit vendor triggered the Arab Spring, a specific affront jolted young Russians to act.

After serving two terms as president, and one as prime minister, Putin announced he would swap places with President Dmitry A. Medvedev. This was not only constitutionally questionable, but made the March 4 elections almost irrelevant.

"The new generation born after the Soviet Union collapsed was not strongly anti-Putin, but they were humiliated after Putin and Medvedev announced the switch," says Yevgenia Albats, the courageous editor of New Times, one of a handful of independent Russian print publications remaining. I spoke to her by phone in Moscow, where her staff is working night and day to cover these stunning events.

As a reaction to the switch, says Albats, "a lot of young people decided to work as (independent) election observers during the Dec. 4 parliamentary elections." They were further outraged by blatant

By TRUDY RUBIN

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for the Philadelphia Inquirer. Readers may write to her at: Philadelphia Inquirer, P.O. Box 8263, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101, or by email at trubin@phillynews.com.



ballot rigging in favor of Putin's United Russia party (now referred to by the opposition as "the party of thieves"). "That was the trigger, like in North Africa," says Albats. It drove middle-class Russian professionals over the edge.

Their anger prompted huge and unprecedented demonstrations,

Their anger prompted huge and unprecedented demonstrations, starting in December, in Moscow and other cities. This week, 30,000 demonstrators formed a human chain around Moscow's inner-ring road to protest Putin's return to power in a rigged system. They will also demonstrate after Sunday's elections, even if they're refused official permission.

As in the Mideast, grassroots modernizers face mammoth odds in trying to reform Russia. The Kremlin controls much of the economy, and its security services will target opponents.

Putin still has strong support from more traditional elements of society, especially outside the big cities, who credit him with creating stability. Like Putin, they fear and mistrust the Internet. "Putin is a man of traditional Russia," says Albats, "who believes the Internet is porno and (represents) a dangerous world he does not understand."

Putin's critics say he will resist any political reform beyond cosmetic gestures. "He sees what happens with leaders who tried to do that," says former Putin economic adviser Andrei Illarionov, now a senior fellow at the Cato Institute in Washington. "He sees that (Egyptian President Hosni) Mubarak is gone, while (Syrian President Bashar) Assad is still in power."

Illarionov believes Putin will try to avoid outraging the outside world, especially Europe, by a blatant crackdown, but "is likely to use the smart power of the security services to isolate the most active and attractive (opposition) leaders, while forcefully dispersing the rest of the people who come to the streets."

Can the Internet generation mount a serious challenge to the Kremlin—despite lack of access to media and the harassment of their leaders? Can they find common cause with anti-Putinites who come from communist or nationalist factions? Or are they likely to be outflanked by harsh men who want to retain the old order, no matter the cost? The answer matters not only for Russia's people, but for its relations with Western countries and the world.

**EDITORIAL POLICY** 

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500

words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## The Big Bang

ell, it is not his theory known for the phrase "big bang" that caught our fancy with astrophysicist Stephen Hawking, known for his 1988 *A Brief History of Time*. Wheelchair-bound from a neurosensory disorder, news media guffawed with a big bang in a report that the well-known scientist, reviled in some quarters for his outspoken anti-theism, has allegedly been seen frequenting sex shows. Widely reported and broadly commented, the twice-divorced boyish-looking father of three flamed the media's curiosity recently with his comment that women to him were a "complete mystery."

In Christendom's assumed domain like Saipan, the season of Lent invites confession, and that is where we properly begin.

We were in our mid-50s on Saipan by the time we finally heard someone's suggestion that perhaps we are a bit predatory in our relationship with vulnerable women. Thinking ourselves to be a normal Filipino boy encouraged to chase skirts before settling down, and forgiven the incidences of wild oats scattered in the process of taking advantage of the "weaker" sex as acts of misdemeanor, we ignored such accusations until a professional colleague suggested a visit to a psychiatrist. The finding of possible bipolarity after one sitting whammed us with the knockout of big bang proportion.

This came to head when, in our attempt to be honest and come out clean, we married a perfectly sane female three decades-plus our junior. Colleagues secretly held their breaths and expressed the question, "What d'you think you are doing?" when the union terminated.

Though we have considered our self historically to be liberal and progressive on women's issues, it was not until our late years that we understood our self to be sexist in language and thought, and irreparably predatory to the vulnerable female of the specie for which no amount of, nor frequency in, penitently saying *mea culpa*, will forgive us of our culpability.

In one of the bad habits we are called to overcome, labeled by

my colleagues with the Symposium of Realistic Living in the book *The Road from Empire to Eco-Democracy* as The Drag of Patriarchy, they write: "Worldwide, women contribute half the world's population, perform two-thirds the work hours, receive one-tenth the income, and own less than one one-hundredth of the world's property (UN Report, 1980). We live in a world where women can be bought and men can rape and even kill their wives under the protection of the law." We do not have to go too deep or too far beyond Garapan—its shows, gropes, rapes, and murdered women, to know the truth of this statement.

Our fascination with women still cause drooling as we debate whether Angelina Jolie's legs displayed too much skin on the Red Carpet of the Oscars, or JLo's low cut attire may actually have been a malfunction!

Nancy Pelosi is waging war against what she labels as the Republican's "War on Women," as Congress attempts again to intrude on women's right to decide what to do with their bodies. Men for 5,500 years have dictated how they should be protected and adorned. *Roe v. Wade* was a legal form of the middle finger from many ladies; we shudder when our female vocalists gesture the same on stage.

The theorist Hawking, better known for staring at the galaxy and ruminating on such ideas as the universe's Big Bang, and the incidences of black holes on outer space, seems to me to deserve a medal for pursuing applied research on what his complex and brilliant mind considers a mystery. He might be commended for his continuing interest not only in the opposite sex but on the primitive and native instinct that most of the male of the specie display toward the pulchritudinous mounds, curvatures, and crevices associated with those he continues to see, and we pretend to understand, as a complete mystery.

In our recent stop at an ATM kiosk of our bank, a Putunghua sign on the wall had the following English translation: "WARNING, Please take care of your belongings in pubic..." The Chinese are

## By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime R. Vergara (jrvergarajr2031@aol.com) is a former PSS teacher and is currently writing from the campus of Shenyang Aerospace University in China.



obviously not as Victorian finicky as their American counterparts. That, or our task of teaching English language to a globalizing China is a wide, open fertile field!

If for anything else, the sense of mystery and the active curiosity of Stephen Hawking are well placed, sitting as he does, like the rest of us, from the perspective of the decline of patriarchy in the advancing demise of what has been heretofore described as Western civilization.

At SVES, we heard often enough of the rationalization that the Chamorro and Carolinian communities are, at bottom, matrilineal in inheritance rights, and Asians generally matriarchal in economics. Women's rights and social equality are thereby not civil and political issues.

The Road claims: "Although many men and some women talk as if gender equality were already achieved (or as if this achievement were a matter of tying up a few loose ends), men are still oppressing women religiously, sociologically, institutionally, and physically throughout the world."

We await the moment a woman teaches Hawking, and Saipan women the rest of us, a lesson that would clearly be a *eureka* moment. Meanwhile, we will let "black holes" and the "big bang" as astrophysics' terms.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Zoning the truth

In response to the Zoning board's recent media attempts to muddy the waters and zone the truth to fit their self-serving needs, it is necessary to set the record straight about their claims that there exists the "public's highly unfavorable" reaction to rezoning certain paved roads to a flexible plan of mixed commercial use.

I have copies of the attendance sheets for all the public hearings held last summer over the proposed amendments to the Zoning board's new 2012 Zoning Law, and the Zoning board's interpretation of the "public" attendance and "highly unfavorable" reaction is a figment of their own delusional zoned truth.

Here's a breakdown of the public hearings: (6/6/11): 15 attendees, including only four actual members of the public and myself, and 10 attendees were Zoning board members, staff, and their spouses. "San Roque" (6/7/11): Eight attendees, including five members of the public, including myself, and three Zoning attendees. "Kagman (6/8/11): 6 attendees, all Zoning members and one spouse, and myself. "Zoning Office" (6/9/11): one attendee who was a Zoning member. "SanVicente" (6/10/11): Six attendees, all Zoning members and family, and myself. "DanDan" (6/13/11): Seven attendees, two members of the public, five Zoning members and spouse, and myself. "Koblerville" (6/14/11): Eight attendees, including four members of the public, three legislators including myself, and one member of the Zoning Board. "Oleai" (6/15/11: Cancelled, no attendees. "Zoning board" (6/30/11): 19 attendees, including 10 members of the public, one media member and myself, and seven Zoning members.

Some basic math will give you only 70 attendees for all the nine hearings, and subtracting myself and comparing the 35 "biased" Zoning attendees to the total attendees, you have nearly 60 percent of the total attendees were "Zoners." The remaining attendees are too few to gauge the "highly unfavorable" public reaction, especially considering the repeat attendees and the usual Saipan "always complaining" suspects.

I will rest my zoning amendments and their good intentions on all the Saipan residents who have continually called and visited me with their support, and the fear that the Zoning board has about their self-serving empire being challenged is noted for the record.

Rep. Stanley T. McGinnis Torres Capital Hill, Saipan

# An out-of-it guy confronts in-with-it style o I woke up Monday morning feeling pretty fashion-forward. I'd made my quadrennial trip to the mall on Sunday

o I woke up Monday morning feeling pretty fashion-forward. I'd made my quadrennial trip to the mall on Sunday to buy shirts. On Monday I put on a new shirt and fairly new shoes. There were no holes in the socks or khakis. I had it going on.

Then I saw Page 1 of the Monday New York Times, and I realized I had blown it—I hadn't bought any accessories. Stephanie

"The male models walking the runway at New York Fashion Week shows this month wore, among other adornments, scarves that could double as blankets; belts, pocket squares and fur neckwear; caps and handbags; feather necklaces; and metal cuffs."

Now I don't regard a belt as an accessory, nor even a cap and a wool scarf on a cold day. But fur neckwear? Handbags? Metal cuffs? When you're not being arrested?

This was a bitter reminder of how far out of it I've always been. Be honest: I'm not alone. I don't work in an industry in which guys are noted for their fashion sense. But even outside of the newspaper, I don't see many guys wearing fur neckwear or carrying a handbag. It could be argued that I don't go to the right places, but I don't even know where the right places are.

But somebody is buying this stuff. Spending on men's apparel and accessories is booming, Clifford reported, with sales up 8 percent last year. Spending on accessories was up 14 percent in the second half of 2011 to about \$6 billion.

Six. Billion. Dollars. On accessories.

"To get traditional women's accessories to appeal to men, some designers are giving them manly names and styles," Clifford writes. "That's not really a bracelet; it's wristwear. And that's not a purse, nor the dreaded murse (man purse), but a holdall.

"It doesn't look like you borrowed it from your girlfriend,' Nicolas Travis, 24, a business school student who runs the blog Style Flavors, said of the manned-up styles he prefers. 'A little bit more bling, and you run the risk of it looking a bit more feminine."

Memo to cops: Next time you arrest a guy, slap the wristwear on him.

I checked out Travis' blog. He writes, "We are allergic to bull—and that speaks for itself."

Yes, it certainly does. So does, "We try hard at Style Flavors to be kick-ass and in-the-know" and "Rock on."

He writes that he recently lost his passport, and replacing it was a pain, so he's recommending the gray leather Damir Doma men's Buzko Passport Holder. How this will keep you from losing your passport he does not say, but perhaps losing it again won't bother you as much because you've also lost a \$229.39 passport holder.

## By KEVIN HORRIGAN

St. Louis Post-Dispatch

Kevin Horrigan is a columnist for the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Readers may write to him at: St. Louis Post-Dispatch, 900 North Tucker Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. 63101, or email him at khorrigan@post-dispatch.com.



Hand Painted Leather Wallet. Travis writes that it has a "natural rustic vibe." It costs \$249.82. I like that it's not \$249 or \$249.99, but a more rustic \$249.82.

The passport holder will pair up nicely with the Dries Van Noten

Here's what I don't understand because I'm such a fashion rube: You're going to stick your passport and your wallet in a pocket (or purse). What do you care what they look like?

Apparently wristwear is huge. "Bracelets are really hot right now," a fashion trend guy told Clifford. But the bracelets have to look manly

For example, a company called Miansai makes a "retro-inspired" model out of "military-grade woven cord (sourced from an American company that supplies the U.S. Coast Guard)" that looks like you've wrapped a piece of squiggly phone cord around your wrist. It costs \$105 but the J.Crew website is sold out.

Here's the part of the description I like best: "This bracelet adds a rugged utilitarian touch to whatever else you're wearing."

Sure, it's completely useless, but it adds a "rugged utilitarian touch."

From a company called Diesel, you can get leather cuffs studded with metal. "It's leather; it's hardware; it's a military aesthetic," the firm's marketing director told Clifford.

Here's an idea: Put on this bracelet, fly to Afghanistan, find a Marine humping a pack and ask him how he likes your military aesthetic.

Clifford reports that the accessories trend originated in Italy and Japan "where men throw on silky scarves or pile on bracelets and berets with nonchalance."

Guys see this on fashion blogs, or they see TV shows like "Board-walk Empire," where "the cool characters dress with panache," and they latch on to the styles as a way to be "edgy" and "on the fringe."

Well, sure. Your edgy, fringe-y guys spend a lot of time watching TV. And who wouldn't want to look like Steve Buscemi, the star of "Boardwalk Empire"? My own look is modeled on Steve Buscemi in "Fargo."

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage:

## The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian



Partly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 15 to 25 mph.

.87° **▼** 76°



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

**▲** 86° ▼ 76°



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

**▲86° ▼76°** 



Partly cloudy with

**▲** 86° ▼ 77°

isolated showers.

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

**▲86° ▼77°** 

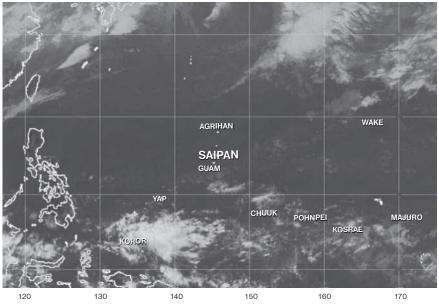
## **Micronesia**

Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 87 ▼76
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 85 <b>▼</b> 78
Yap	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 89 <b>▼</b> 78
Chuuk	Mostly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 90 <b>▼</b> 80
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 85 <b>▼</b> 79
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 85 <b>▼</b> 79
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 87 <b>▼</b> 79

## **Around The Globe**

Auckland	Mostly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 70 <b>▼</b> 60
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 47 <b>▼</b> 25
Hong Kong	Showers	<b>▲</b> 68 <b>▼</b> 64
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 78 <b>▼</b> 70
London	Showers	<b>▲</b> 47 ▼38
Los Angeles	Sunny	<b>▲</b> 76 <b>▼</b> 49
Manila	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 88 <b>▼</b> 78
Melbourne	Thundershowers	<b>▲</b> 78 <b>▼</b> 61
Miami	Partly Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 87 <b>▼</b> 71
New York	Rain	<b>▲</b> 57 <b>▼</b> 37
Osaka	Showers	<b>▲</b> 48 <b>▼</b> 40
Paris	Showers	<b>▲</b> 51 <b>▼</b> 39
Pusan	Showers	<b>▲</b> 49 <b>▼</b> 43
Rome	Sunny	<b>▲</b> 64 <b>▼</b> 46
Salem	Thundershowers	<b>▲</b> 65 <b>▼</b> 42
San Francisco	Sunny	<b>▲</b> 67 <b>▼</b> 48
Seoul	Cloudy	<b>▲</b> 50 <b>▼</b> 32
Tokyo	Showers	<b>▲</b> 46 <b>▼</b> 36

## Yesterday's Satellite Image



## PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 2012

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A trade-wind disturbance is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Yap, between 2N and 6N from 135E to 145E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers over Tarawa and Butaritari atolls but south of Kosrae and Majuro, south of a line from 4N161E to 5N170E to 2N180.

#### **Tides** Saipan Harbor 4:54 AM Today High Tide: 1.5 Feet 9:33 AM Today Low Tide: 1.2 Feet 2:34 PM Today High Tide: 1.6 Feet 10:21 PM Today Low Tide: 0.1 Feet

Washington, DC Thundershowers ▲64 ▼40

Sunrise/Sunset			Moon	rise/Moor	set
Today	6:33 AM	6:25 PM	Today	1:36 PM	2:00 A
Sunday	6:32 AM	6:25 PM	Sunday	2:30 PM	2:49 A
Monday	6:32 AM	6:26 PM	Monday	3:26 PM	3:37 A
Tuesday	6:31 AM	6:26 PM	Tuesday	4:22 PM	4:23 A
Wednesday	6:32 AM	6:28 PM	Wednesday	5:22 PM	5:10 A

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The Saipan Tribune accepts for FREE publication the following

## **PICTURES**

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings are other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- **TRÁVELOGUE** Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

## **REQUIREMENTS**

## For pictures:

- utors must have the right to allow the Saipan Tribune to publish the pictures.  $\blacksquare$  Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of
- 800kb). ■ Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),
- the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months. ■ For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

## For announcements:

■ Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number ■ Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

## **HOW TO SUBMIT**

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or
- iavvee valleiera@saipantribune.com Fax: (670) 235-3740

Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

■ Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950 ■ Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center

To check if contributions are 6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

## **POLICY**

- The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The Saipan Tribune will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.

  For Travelogue, the Saipan Tribune reserves the right
- to choose which pictures to publish.



through the following: ■ Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone

- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE** For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

**SUBSCRIPTION** Published Monday to Saturday, Saipan Tribune offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

**ADVERTISING** For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 11, 2012

DE							
	PAR	TUR	ES		ARF	RIVAL	.s
GUAM (GUM	)-ROTA (	ROP)		ROTA (ROP)	-GUAM (	GUM)	
C05062		2:40am	1, 5	C05064		5:45am	1, 5
SAIPAN (SP	N)-ROTA	(ROP)		ROTA (ROP)	-SAIPAN	(SPN)	
C05064		4:50am	1, 5	C05062	3:10am	3:45am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GU/	AM (GUM	)		GUAM (GUM	)-SAIPAI	1	
C05064		5:45am	1, 5 via ROP	C05062		3:45am	1, 5 via ROI
C05070		5:25am	2, 3, 4, 6, 7	C05069		3:35am	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
C05068		9:15am	Daily	C05071		7:50am	Daily
C05074		1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C05073		10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05076		4:00pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C05075		2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C05078		7:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C05077 C05077		6:20pm 6:30pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05078 C05072	1.00pill	7:50pm 10:45pm	3, 6 1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C05077		9:25pm	3, 6 1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C05072		10:43pm	1, 2, 4, 3, 1 3, 6	C05079		9:35pm	3, 6
CAIDAN NAI	NITA (NID	· T\		NADITA (ND	T) CAIDA	, M	
<b>Saipan-nai</b> Dl287		1) 8:40am	Daily	NARITA (NR DL298		3:00pm	Daily
DL285		o.4vaiii 9:15am	1, 3, 5, 7	DL290 DL288		3.00pm 1:15am+1	
DL203 DL297		7:15pm	Daily	DL286		12:20am+1	
DLL	п.сори	1.10piii	Dully	DEEGO	1. 10piii	IL.LVUIII I	L, 1, 0, 1
SAIPAN-OS <i>i</i>		-		OSAKA (KIX)			
0Z119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily	0Z120	9:50pm	2:20am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-SEO	UL (ICN)			SEOUL (ICN)			
0Z606		6:00am	1	0Z603		2:20pm	Daily
0Z606		6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			2:20am+1	
0Z119		11:20am	Daily via KIX	0Z605		1:00am+1	
0Z604	3:20pm	7:10pm	Daily	0Z605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5,
SAIPAN-BUS				BUSAN (PUS			
0Z608		7:05am	4, 7	0Z607		2:20am+1	
DL581	4:10am	7:30am	1, 5	DL580	10:10pm	2:55am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-GU <i>i</i>				GUANZHOU			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
				CHANCHAI (	PVG)-SA	IPAN	
SAIPAN-SH <i>i</i>	NGHAI (	PVG)		JIANUNAI (			
<b>SAIPAN-SH<i>A</i></b> 3U8648		<b>PVG)</b> 8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647		5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm		3, 4, 6, 7
3U8648 <b>Saipan-Ma</b> i	6:10am NILA (MN	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7 1 via ICN	3U8647	10:40pm		
3U8648 <b>Saipan-Ma</b> i 0Z606/701	6:10am NILA (MN 2:10am	8:40am		3U8647	10:40pm IL)-SAIP 8:00am	AN	Daily via N
3U8648	6:10am NILA (MN 2:10am	8:40am <b>IL)</b> 11:15am	1 via ICN	3U8647 <b>MANILA (MN</b> DL172/288 C0190/5077 C0190/5079	10:40pm <b>IL)-SAIP</b> / 8:00am 10:55am 10:55am	AN 1:15am+1 6:30pm 9:35pm	Daily via N 3, 6 via GU
3U8648 <b>SAIPAN-MA</b> I 0Z606/701 0Z606/701 C05070/191	6:10am NILA (MN 2:10am 2:40am 4:35am	8:40am <b>IL)</b> 11:15am 11:15am 9:45am	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 3, 6 via GUM	3U8647  MANILA (MN DL172/288 C0190/5077 C0190/5079 OZ702/605	10:40pm <b>IL)-SAIP</b> / 8:00am 10:55am 10:55am 12:30pm	1:15am+1 6:30pm 9:35pm 1:00am+1	Daily via N 3, 6 via GU 3, 6 via GU 7 via ICN
3U8648 <b>SAIPAN-MAI</b> 0Z606/701 0Z606/701 C05070/191 DL287/173	6:10am NILA (MN 2:10am 2:40am 4:35am 6:00am	8:40am 11:15am 11:15am 9:45am 10:25pm	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 3, 6 via GUM Daily via NRT	3U8647 <b>MANILA (MN</b> DL172/288 C0190/5077 C0190/5079	10:40pm <b>IL)-SAIP</b> / 8:00am 10:55am 10:55am 12:30pm	AN 1:15am+1 6:30pm 9:35pm	Daily via N 3, 6 via GU 3, 6 via GU 7 via ICN 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
3U8648 <b>SAIPAN-MAI</b> 0Z606/701 0Z606/701 C05070/191 DL287/173 C05068/183	6:10am NILA (MN 2:10am 2:40am 4:35am 6:00am 8:25am	8:40am 11:15am 11:15am 9:45am 10:25pm 9:25pm	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 3, 6 via GUM Daily via NRT 2, 5 via GUM	3U8647  MANILA (MN DL172/288 C0190/5077 C0190/5079 0Z702/605 0Z702/605	10:40pm 8:00am 10:55am 10:55am 12:30pm 12:30pm	1:15am+1 6:30pm 9:35pm 1:00am+1 1:30am+1	Daily via N 3, 6 via GU 3, 6 via GU 7 via ICN 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, via ICN
3U8648  SAIPAN-MAI 0Z606/701 0Z606/701  C05070/191 DL287/173 C05068/183 C05068/183	6:10am NILA (MN 2:10am 2:40am 4:35am 6:00am 8:25am 8:25am	8:40am 11:15am 11:15am 9:45am 10:25pm 9:25pm 9:40pm	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 3, 6 via GUM Daily via NRT 2, 5 via GUM 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	3U8647  MANILA (MN DL172/288 C0190/5077 C0190/5079 0Z702/605 0Z702/605 PR110/C05071	10:40pm 1L)-SAIP/ 8:00am 10:55am 10:55am 12:30pm 12:30pm	1:15am+1 6:30pm 9:35pm 1:00am+1 1:30am+1	Daily via N 3, 6 via GU 3, 6 via GU 7 via ICN 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 via ICN 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
3U8648  SAIPAN-MAI 0Z606/701 0Z606/701  C05070/191 DL287/173 C05068/183 C05068/183	6:10am NILA (MN 2:10am 2:40am 4:35am 6:00am 8:25am 8:25am 3:10pm	8:40am IL) 11:15am 11:15am 9:45am 10:25pm 9:25pm 9:40pm	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 3, 6 via GUM Daily via NRT 2, 5 via GUM 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM	3U8647  MANILA (MN DL172/288 C0190/5077 C0190/5079 0Z702/605 0Z702/605	10:40pm 1L)-SAIP/ 8:00am 10:55am 10:55am 12:30pm 12:30pm	1:15am+1 6:30pm 9:35pm 1:00am+1 1:30am+1	Daily via N 3, 6 via GU 3, 6 via GU 7 via ICN 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, via ICN 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via
3U8648  SAIPAN-MAI 0Z606/701 0Z606/701  C05070/191 DL287/173 C05068/183 C05068/183	6:10am NILA (MN 2:10am 2:40am 4:35am 6:00am 8:25am 8:25am 3:10pm	8:40am 11:15am 11:15am 9:45am 10:25pm 9:25pm 9:40pm	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 3, 6 via GUM Daily via NRT 2, 5 via GUM 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	3U8647  MANILA (MN DL172/288 C0190/5077 C0190/5079 0Z702/605 0Z702/605 PR110/C05071	10:40pm IL)-SAIP/ 8:00am 10:55am 10:55am 12:30pm 12:30pm 10:15pm	1:15am+1 6:30pm 9:35pm 1:00am+1 1:30am+1	Daily via N 3, 6 via GU 3, 6 via GU 7 via ICN 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, via ICN 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM-Palau
3U8648 <b>Saipan-Ma</b> i 0Z606/701	6:10am NILA (MN 2:10am 2:40am 4:35am 6:00am 8:25am 8:25am 3:10pm 3:10pm	8:40am IL) 11:15am 11:15am 9:45am 10:25pm 9:25pm 9:40pm	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 3, 6 via GUM Daily via NRT 2, 5 via GUM 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 1, 4, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM	3U8647  MANILA (MN DL172/288 C0190/5077 C0190/5079 0Z702/605 0Z702/605 PR110/C05071 C0192/5071	10:40pm IL)-SAIP/ 8:00am 10:55am 10:55am 12:30pm 12:30pm 10:15pm 10:25pm 11:10pm	1:15am+1 6:30pm 9:35pm 1:00am+1 1:30am+1 7:50am+1 7:50am+1	Daily via N 3, 6 via GU 3, 6 via GU 7 via ICN 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, via ICN 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM-Palau 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
3U8648  SAIPAN-MAI 0Z606/701 0Z606/701  C05070/191 DL287/173 C05068/183 C05068/183 C05076/183 C05076/183	6:10am NILA (MN 2:10am 2:40am 4:35am 6:00am 8:25am 8:25am 3:10pm 3:10pm	8:40am 1L) 11:15am 11:15am 9:45am 10:25pm 9:25pm 9:40pm 9:25pm 9:40pm	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 3, 6 via GUM Daily via NRT 2, 5 via GUM 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 1, 4, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM-Palau	3U8647  MANILA (MN DL172/288 C0190/5077 C0190/5079 0Z702/605 0Z702/605 PR110/C05071 C0192/5071 C0184/5071 0Z704/603	10:40pm IL)-SAIP/ 8:00am 10:55am 10:55am 12:30pm 12:30pm 10:15pm 10:25pm 11:10pm 11:40pm	1:15am+1 6:30pm 9:35pm 1:00am+1 1:30am+1 7:50am+1 7:50am+1 2:20pm	Daily via N 3, 6 via GU 3, 6 via GU 7 via ICN 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, via ICN 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM-Palau 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM Daily via IC
3U8648  SAIPAN-MAI 0Z606/701 0Z606/701  C05070/191 DL287/173 C05068/183 C05068/183 C05076/183 C05076/183 C05076/193	6:10am NILA (MN 2:10am 2:40am 4:35am 6:00am 8:25am 8:25am 3:10pm 3:10pm 3:20pm	8:40am  IL)  11:15am  11:15am  9:45am 10:25pm 9:25pm 9:40pm  9:25pm 9:40pm  11:00pm	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 3, 6 via GUM Daily via NRT 2, 5 via GUM 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 1, 4, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM-Palau Daily via ICN	3U8647  MANILA (MN DL172/288 C0190/5077 C0190/5079 0Z702/605 0Z702/605 PR110/C05071 C0192/5071	10:40pm IL)-SAIP/ 8:00am 10:55am 10:55am 12:30pm 12:30pm 10:15pm 10:25pm 11:10pm 11:40pm	1:15am+1 6:30pm 9:35pm 1:00am+1 1:30am+1 7:50am+1 7:50am+1	Daily via N 3, 6 via GU 3, 6 via GU 7 via ICN 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, via ICN 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM-Palau 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM Daily via IC
3U8648  SAIPAN-MAI 0Z606/701 0Z606/701  C05070/191 DL287/173 C05068/183 C05068/183 C05076/183 C05076/183	6:10am NILA (MN 2:10am 2:40am 4:35am 6:00am 8:25am 8:25am 3:10pm 3:10pm 3:20pm	8:40am 1L) 11:15am 11:15am 9:45am 10:25pm 9:25pm 9:40pm 9:25pm 9:40pm	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 3, 6 via GUM Daily via NRT 2, 5 via GUM 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM-Palau Daily via ICN 1, 5, 7	3U8647  MANILA (MN DL172/288 C0190/5077 C0190/5079 0Z702/605 0Z702/605 PR110/C05071 C0192/5071 C0184/5071 0Z704/603	10:40pm IL)-SAIP/ 8:00am 10:55am 10:55am 12:30pm 12:30pm 10:15pm 10:25pm 11:10pm 11:40pm	1:15am+1 6:30pm 9:35pm 1:00am+1 1:30am+1 7:50am+1 7:50am+1 2:20pm	Daily via N 3, 6 via GU 3, 6 via GU 7 via ICN 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, via ICN 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM-Palau 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM Daily via IC
3U8648  SAIPAN-MAI 0Z606/701 0Z606/701 0C05070/191 DL287/173 C05068/183 C05068/183 C05076/183 C05076/183 C05076/193 0Z604/703 C05072/PR111	6:10am NILA (MN 2:10am 2:40am 4:35am 6:00am 8:25am 8:25am 3:10pm 3:10pm 3:20pm 9:55pm	8:40am  IL)  11:15am  11:15am  9:45am 10:25pm 9:25pm 9:40pm  9:25pm 9:40pm  11:00pm  7:50am+1	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 3, 6 via GUM Daily via NRT 2, 5 via GUM 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 1, 4, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM-Palau Daily via ICN	3U8647  MANILA (MN DL172/288 C0190/5077 C0190/5079 0Z702/605 0Z702/605 PR110/C05071 C0192/5071 C0184/5071 0Z704/603	10:40pm IL)-SAIP/ 8:00am 10:55am 10:55am 12:30pm 12:30pm 10:15pm 10:25pm 11:10pm 11:40pm	1:15am+1 6:30pm 9:35pm 1:00am+1 1:30am+1 7:50am+1 7:50am+1 2:20pm	Daily via N 3, 6 via GU 3, 6 via GU 7 via ICN 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, via ICN 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM-Palau 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM Daily via IC
3U8648  SAIPAN-MAI 0Z606/701 0Z606/701 0C05070/191 DL287/173 C05068/183 C05068/183 C05076/183 C05076/183 C05076/193 0Z604/703 C05072/PR111	6:10am NILA (MN 2:10am 2:40am 4:35am 6:00am 8:25am 8:25am 3:10pm 3:10pm 3:20pm 9:55pm 10:05pm	8:40am  IL)  11:15am  11:15am  9:45am 10:25pm 9:25pm 9:40pm  9:25pm 9:40pm  11:00pm  11:00pm 7:50am+1	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 3, 6 via GUM Daily via NRT 2, 5 via GUM 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 1, 4, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 1, 5 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 3, 5 via GUM 4, 7 via GUM 5, 5 via GUM	3U8647  MANILA (MN DL172/288 C0190/5077 C0190/5079 0Z702/605 0Z702/605 PR110/C05071 C0192/5071 C0184/5071 0Z704/603 C0184/5071	10:40pm IL)-SAIP- 8:00am 10:55am 10:55am 12:30pm 12:30pm 10:15pm 10:25pm 11:10pm 11:40pm 11:59pm	1:15am+1 6:30pm 9:35pm 1:00am+1 1:30am+1 7:50am+1 7:50am+1 2:20pm 7:50am+1	Daily via N 3, 6 via GU 3, 6 via GU 7 via ICN 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 via ICN 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM-Palau 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM Daily via I
3U8648  SAIPAN-MAI 0Z606/701 0Z606/701 0C05070/191 DL287/173 C05068/183 C05068/183 C05076/183 C05076/183 C05076/193 0Z604/703 C05072/PR111 C05072/PR111	6:10am  NILA (MN 2:10am 2:40am 4:35am 6:00am 8:25am 8:25am 3:10pm 3:10pm 3:20pm 9:55pm 10:05pm	8:40am  IL)  11:15am  11:15am  9:45am 10:25pm 9:25pm 9:40pm  9:25pm 9:40pm  11:00pm 7:50am+1 7:50am+1	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 3, 6 via GUM Daily via NRT 2, 5 via GUM 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 3, 6 via GUM 3, 6 via GUM	3U8647  MANILA (MN DL172/288 C0190/5077 C0190/5079 0Z702/605 0Z702/605  PR110/C05071 C0192/5071 C0184/5071 0Z704/603 C0184/5071	10:40pm  IL)-SAIP/ 8:00am 10:55am 10:55am 12:30pm 12:30pm 10:15pm 10:25pm 11:10pm 11:40pm 11:59pm	1:15am+1 6:30pm 9:35pm 1:00am+1 1:30am+1 7:50am+1 7:50am+1 2:20pm 7:50am+1	Daily via N 3, 6 via GU 3, 6 via GU 7 via ICN 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM-Palau 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM Daily via IU 2, 5 via GU
3U8648  SAIPAN-MAI 0Z606/701 0Z606/701 0C05070/191 DL287/173 C05068/183 C05068/183 C05076/183 C05076/183 C05076/193 0Z604/703 C05072/PR111 C05072/PR111 SAIPAN-HOI 0Z606/721	6:10am  NILA (MN 2:10am 2:40am 4:35am 6:00am 8:25am 8:25am 3:10pm 3:10pm 3:10pm 10:05pm  NG KONG 2:10am	8:40am  IL)  11:15am  11:15am  9:45am 10:25pm 9:25pm 9:40pm  9:25pm 9:40pm  11:00pm 7:50am+1 7:50am+1 (HKG) 12:00pm	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 3, 6 via GUM Daily via NRT 2, 5 via GUM 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 1, 4, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM-Palau Daily via ICN 1, 5, 7 via GUM 3, 6 via GUM	3U8647  MANILA (MN DL172/288 C0190/5077 C0190/5079 0Z702/605 0Z702/605 PR110/C05071 C0192/5071 C0184/5071 0Z704/603 C0184/5071  HONG KONG 0Z724/603	10:40pm  IL)-SAIP/ 8:00am 10:55am 10:55am 12:30pm 12:30pm 10:15pm 10:25pm 11:10pm 11:40pm 11:59pm	1:15am+1 6:30pm 9:35pm 1:00am+1 1:30am+1 7:50am+1 7:50am+1 2:20pm 7:50am+1	Daily via N 3, 6 via GU 3, 6 via GU 7 via ICN 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, via ICN 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM-Palau 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM Daily via IC 2, 5 via GU Daily via IC
3U8648  SAIPAN-MAI 0Z606/701 0Z606/701 0C05070/191 DL287/173 C05068/183 C05068/183 C05076/183 C05076/183 C05076/193 0Z604/703 C05072/PR111 C05072/PR111	6:10am  NILA (MN 2:10am 2:40am 4:35am 6:00am 8:25am 8:25am 3:10pm 3:10pm 3:10pm 10:05pm  NG KONG 2:10am	8:40am  IL)  11:15am  11:15am  9:45am 10:25pm 9:25pm 9:40pm  9:25pm 9:40pm  11:00pm 7:50am+1 7:50am+1	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 3, 6 via GUM Daily via NRT 2, 5 via GUM 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 1, 4, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 1, 5, 7 via GUM 3, 6 via GUM	3U8647  MANILA (MN DL172/288 C0190/5077 C0190/5079 0Z702/605 0Z702/605  PR110/C05071 C0192/5071 C0184/5071 0Z704/603 C0184/5071  HONG KONG 0Z724/603 0Z750/603	10:40pm  IL)-SAIP/ 8:00am 10:55am 10:55am 12:30pm 12:30pm 10:15pm 10:25pm 11:10pm 11:40pm 11:59pm (HKG)-\$ 12:30am 1:00am	1:15am+1 6:30pm 9:35pm 1:00am+1 1:30am+1 7:50am+1 7:50am+1 2:20pm 7:50am+1	Daily via N 3, 6 via GU 3, 6 via GU 7 via ICN 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, via ICN 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM-Palau 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM Daily via IC 2, 5 via GU Daily via IC
3U8648  SAIPAN-MAI 0Z606/701 0Z606/701 0Z606/701 0C05070/191 DL287/173 0C05068/183 0C05076/183 0C05076/183 0C05076/183 0C05076/183 0C05072/PR111 C05072/PR111 SAIPAN-HOI 0Z606/721	6:10am  NILA (MN 2:10am 2:40am 4:35am 6:00am 8:25am 8:25am 3:10pm 3:10pm 3:20pm 9:55pm 10:05pm NG KONG 2:40am	8:40am  IL)  11:15am  11:15am  9:45am 10:25pm 9:25pm 9:40pm  11:00pm  11:00pm 7:50am+1 7:50am+1 (HKG) 12:00pm 12:00pm	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 3, 6 via GUM Daily via NRT 2, 5 via GUM 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 1, 4, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 1, 5, 7 via GUM 3, 6 via GUM 1 via ICN 1, 5, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 3, 6 via GUM	3U8647  MANILA (MN DL172/288 C0190/5077 C0190/5079 0Z702/605 0Z702/605  PR110/C05071 C0192/5071 C0184/5071 0Z704/603 C0184/5071  HONG KONG 0Z724/603 0Z750/603 0Z722/605	10:40pm  IL)-SAIP/ 8:00am 10:55am 10:55am 12:30pm 12:30pm 10:15pm 10:25pm 11:40pm 11:59pm  (HKG)-\$ 12:30am 1:00am 1:15pm	1:15am+1 6:30pm 9:35pm 1:00am+1 1:30am+1 7:50am+1 7:50am+1 2:20pm 7:50am+1	Daily via N 3, 6 via GU 7 via ICN 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 via ICN 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM-Palau 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM Daily via IC 2, 5 via GUM
3U8648  SAIPAN-MAI 0Z606/701 0Z606/701 0C05070/191 DL287/173 C05068/183 C05068/183 C05076/183 C05076/183 C05076/193 0Z604/703 C05072/PR111 C05072/PR111 SAIPAN-HOI 0Z606/721	6:10am  NILA (MN 2:10am 2:40am 4:35am 6:00am 8:25am 8:25am 3:10pm 3:10pm 3:20pm 9:55pm 10:05pm NG KONG 2:40am 3:10pm	8:40am  IL)  11:15am  11:15am  9:45am 10:25pm 9:25pm 9:40pm  9:25pm 9:40pm  11:00pm 7:50am+1 7:50am+1 (HKG) 12:00pm	1 via ICN 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN 3, 6 via GUM Daily via NRT 2, 5 via GUM 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 1, 4, 7 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 2, 5 via GUM 1, 5, 7 via GUM 3, 6 via GUM	3U8647  MANILA (MN DL172/288 C0190/5077 C0190/5079 0Z702/605 0Z702/605  PR110/C05071 C0192/5071 C0184/5071 0Z704/603 C0184/5071  HONG KONG 0Z724/603 0Z750/603	10:40pm  IL)-SAIP/ 8:00am 10:55am 10:55am 12:30pm 12:30pm 10:15pm 10:25pm 11:40pm 11:59pm  (HKG)-\$ 12:30am 1:00am 1:15pm	1:15am+1 6:30pm 9:35pm 1:00am+1 1:30am+1 7:50am+1 7:50am+1 2:20pm 7:50am+1	Daily via N 3, 6 via GU 3, 6 via GU 7 via ICN 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, via ICN 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM-Palau 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM Daily via IC 2, 5 via GU Daily via IC

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7): 5K: FlyGuam: 3U: Sichuan Airlines: CZ: China Southern: CO: Continental: DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA Fr	equency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan			,	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota			,	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300 <b>Rota-Saipan</b>	17:00 17:50	17:30 18:20	Daily Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Saipan-Rota	10.20	10.10	buny	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam			,	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily				'
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

SAIPAN TRIBUNE SATURDAY - SUNDAY, MARCH 3-4, 2012 **9** 

#### SCHEDULE OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES

#### CATHOLIC 🗁

#### Mt. Carmel Cathedral

Sunday Mass: 6am Chamorro, 9am English, 11am Filipino and 6pm English Monday-Saturday: 6am Chamorro Wednesday: 6pm Chamorro Parish office hours: Monday-Saturday 8am-12pm, 12-1pm, 1-5pm

#### **Korean Center**

Sunday: 10:30am Wednesday: 10am Thursday-Friday: 8pm Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

#### Kristo Rai Parish

Sunday- Saturday: 6am Wednesday: 6am and 6pm (PH Novena 5:45pm)

Friday: 5:30pm praying of Divine Mercy Chaplet; 6pm devotional mass in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Saturday: 6am and 6pm (anticipated) Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am 6pm Tagalog mass

Parish office hours: (Fr. Celso G. Magbanua) Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 8-11:30am/ 3-5:30pm, Wednesday and Friday 3-5pm

Telephone no. 285-0273

#### **Santa Soledad Mission Parish**

Monday: 6pm Tuesday: 6pm Wednesday: 6pm Friday: 6pm Saturday: 6pm (Youth mass/ anticipated Sunday mass) Sunday: 7am and 9am (Children's mass) Parish office hours: Wednesday and Friday: 8-10am. Saturday: 4-6pm Telephone no. 256-4568

## **Saint Jude Parish**

Monday- Friday: 6pm Saturday: 7am Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am Parish office hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-11:30am, 3:30-5pm Office is close every Thursday and Telephone no. 288-0007

## San Antonio Parish

Monday-Friday 6pm Saturday: 6pm Sunday: 7am, 9am (Blessing of children) Parish office hours: Tuesday-Saturday: 8-11:30am, 2-4:45pm Close on Sunday and Monday

## San Francisco de Borja-Rota

Sunday: 6am Chamorro, 8am English Monday and Tuesday:6am Chamorro Wednesday:6pm English Thursday: 6am Chamorro Friday: 6am English Saturday: 6am Chamorro, 6pm Tagalog Sunday: anticipated mass

## San Isidro-Rota

Sunday: 5am, 8am, 10am Monday-Friday: 7pm Saturday: 5am and 7pm

## San Jose (Oleai) Parish

Monday- Saturday: 6am daily mass Monday- Sunday: 3pm Divine Mercy

Wednesday: 6pm, mass, exposition of the blessed sacrament

Saturday: 6pm, anticipated Sunday

Sunday: 7:30-9am English, 6pm Tagalog mass

Office hours: Monday-Wednesday: 9am-12pm, 2-5pm

Thursday: day off Friday- Saturday: 8am-12pm, 2-5pm Telephone no. 234-6991

## **San Roque Parish**

Sunday: 7:30am Chamorro, 9am English Monday: 6pm English Tuesday: 6pm English Wednesday: 6pm English- novena mass to our Lady of San Roque oil Thursday: 6pm English Friday: 6pm English- Devotion to the sacred heart of Jesus (First Fridays) Saturday: 6am English- Our Lady's

Saturday mass for the intentions of the Men and Women in military service, 6pm English- anticipated mass Parish office hours: daily except Thursday and Sundays: 4:30-6pm Telephone no. 322-2404, Fr. Bong's cell: 285-912. Diocesan Finance office: 234-3000 ext.143

#### **San Vicente Parish**

Monday-Friday: 6pm, Saturday: 6pm (First Saturday of every Sunday: 6am anticipated mass, 6pm (Neo Catechumenal community mass), 8pm Sunday: 6am, 9am, 6pm Parish office hours: daily 9-11am Telephone no. 235-8208 or 287-0131

#### **Santa Remedios**

Sunday: 8am Monday: 6pm (1st Mondays cemetery masses at 5:30pm) Tuesday- Friday: 6pm Saturday: 6pm-anticipated Sunday mass 8-10pm Parish office hours: Monday- Friday:

#### 2 **PROTESTANT**

#### **Amen Church**

8:30am-12pm

Sunday: 10am, 1pm, 5pm Wednesday : 7pm Friday Prayer : 9pm Bible Study : 4pm (Tue) Music Practice : 5pm (Sat) Korean class: 3:30pm (Thu) Visitation: 10am(Fri, Sat) Outreach : 8am (First Sat) Tel. No. 285-2121, 256-2221 Email: osevo@daum.net

#### **Born Again Christian**

(Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm

Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am Sunday School for Children: 10-11am Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

## Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan

Sunday School: 9am Sunday Morning Worship: 10am Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm Telephone no. 234-6026/27

#### **Chinese Christian Church of** Saipan

Worship Services: Sunday: Chinese and Filipino 9am, English 6pm Bible Study: Wednesday and Saturday Telephone no. 235-8540

## Cornerstone Christian Church,

Saipan Morning Service, Sunday, 10:00 am Evening Service, Sunday, 6:00 pm Children Sunday School, 10:00am/

Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7-9 pm Youth Night of Worship, Friday, 6:30 pm As Perdido Road

Chalan Piao, Saipan MP 96950 Tel. No. (670) 235-8590 Email: cornerstone@cfemcares.org

#### **Episcopal/Anglican Church on** Saipan

St. Paul's Episcopal Church Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am Place: Ga

#### **Grace Christian Assembly,** Saipan

Call 285-6081 for directions

Sunday Worship Service: 9-11am Sunday school/ Children's church 9am (nursery available during Sunday service) GBI Classes: 4-6pm Prayer Meeting: 6am Tuesday GCA Kagman, Wednesday Navy Hill, Thursday

San Antonio Home Cell Bible Study: 7pm (Through out the week)

Telephone no. 322-5680

## Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan

Wednesday: 7:45pm (English) Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm (Tagalog) Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog) Sunday: 6:45am (English) Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am

#### **Immanuel United Methodist** Church

Chalan Kanoa Drive, Chalan Kanoa (east of Town Center and Beach Road, Near Mt. Carmel Cathedral) Worship Service: 9:00am Children's Sunday School: 9:00am Choir Practice: 8:00am Singspiration: 8:30am Prayer, Care & Share: Wednesday

## Pastor: Millie Carroll 322-6158 **Immanuel Methodist Church**

(Filipino Congregation) Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal 8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog) 9:15am-Sunday School Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group 8:00pm-Prayer Meeting Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church)

Saturday: 8:00pm-Choir Practice (Parsonage) (Korean Congregation) Sunday worship: 9am, 10:30, 1pm Wednesday evening service: 8pm

Daily morning prayer: 5am

## Jesus is Lord Church, Saipan

Sunday English Service: 7:30-9am, Sunday Tagalog Service: 9-11am and 6-8pm, Wednesday: 7:30-9pm

## Korean Presbyterian Church,

Sunday School: 9:20am Sunday Adult: 11am Sunday Evening: 7:30pm Wednesday: 8pm

#### Life in the Son Christian Fellowship, Saipan

Sunday Worship Service: 10am-12noon Tuesday: Leadership Institute 7pm-10pm Wednesday: Corporate prayer 7pm-8pm Last Friday of the month-prayer: 7pm-

Friday: Youth on Fire: 7pm-9pm Tel. No. 235-LIFE (5433)

#### Marianas Baptist Church, Saipan

English Worship Service: 9-10:30am Evening Worship Service: 6-7pm Children Sunday School: 9-10:30am Tagalog Sunday School: 11am-12pm English Sunday School: 11am-12pm Korean Worship Service: 11am-12pm Wednesday Prayer Meeting: English, 7pm-8pm Korean: 8:30pm-9:30pm

## **Missions Connection Ministry**

**Every Sunday Celebrations:** 10am (English), 6pm (Tagalog) Wednesday Bible Study: 7pm Youth Impact Friday: 7pm Saturday Prayer Meeting: 7pm

## Northern Marianas Christian

Church Sunday Worship Service: 10 am at Seventh Day Adventist church on Quartermaster Rd. Wednesday Service: 7 pm at Fina Sisu Housing FS#1

#### **Marianas Bible Fellowship** Center

Contact Nick for

Sunday School: 9-9:30am Divine Worship: 9:30-11am Evening Service: 7pm-8:30pm Wednesday Prayer Meeting: 8pm-9pm

#### **Pentecostal Missionary Church** of Christ (4th Watch) Sunday worship 8:30am

Sunday evening 7:00pm Prayer meeting, every Wednesday San Jose village, after San Jose Hotel Telephone: 789-7566

## Saipan Christian Church

Sunday: 7:30am-10am

Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting) Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

#### **Saipan Church of Christ**

Sunday Bible Class: 9am Sunday Worship: 10am Sunday Worship English: 10-11am Sunday Worship Tagalog: 6-7pm Thursday Bible Study: 7pm

#### **Saipan Community Church**

(Sunday Services) Palau Service: 7:30am-9am English Service: 10am-11:30am Chuukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

## Seventh-Day Adventist Church,

Saipan (Saturday Church Services) Sabbath School Program: 9-10am Lesson Study: 10-10:40am Divine Service: 11-12pm Visitation: 3-4pm Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

#### **First Baptist Church Koblerville**

Sunday services: Sunday school 9:00am Morning worship 10:00am Evening service 6:00pm Wednesday evening bible study 7:00pm

Chinese services Sunday morning 10:00am Sunday evening 7:00pm

Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church. Telephone No: 285-4661/2

## **Thy Word Ministries Saipan**

Faith Center

Phone 234-0209 New Christian Charismatic Church Service located in Chalan Paio. Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above

Subway Sandwiches. Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi

Service Times Sunday 10:00am Worship Service Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

#### **Upper Room International** Ministries

5:30am-6:30am Sunday Morning prayer 7am-9am English service 7am-9am Sunday school 10am-12noon English service, Koblerville Wednesday 7pm-9pm Prayer meeting Saturday 7pm-9pm Tagalog service Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church Gualo Rai, Saipan

## **Victory Chapel Christian**

Fellowship Church Sunday School: 9:30am Sunday AM Worship:10:30am Sunday PM Worship:7:00am Wed Worship: 7:30pm Prayer 45 min. Prior to Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

## **Victorious Christian Church**

(Formerly God's Victorious Army) Sunday 8:30am to 10:30am - Worship Service Monday 7:00 pm - Women's Fellowship Tuesday nights - Home cellgroup Wednesday - 7:30pm to 9:00pm Mid Week Service Friday 7:30pm to 9:00pm Prayer Meeting

Saturday nights - Praise and worship practice Last Friday of the month - Overnight

praying meeting

Pastor Brendon Perez - Tel# 2359246

# A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

## Mar. 3,2000

#### **Hopwood Jr. High tutors bicker**

Clashes between two groups of teachers and staff of the Hopwood Junior High School may compromise the students' access to learning if arguments surrounding the alleged inefficient management of the institution's principal persist. A group of tutors and non-teaching staff signed a petition seeking the ouster of Hopwood Junior High principal Lourdes Mendiola on grounds that she allegedly failed to address pressing discipline problems in the school. The petition letter was signed by 51 employees of the school, 70 percent of whom are teachers and 40 percent are support staff. Hopwood Junior High employs 85 staff and is home to some 1,300 students.

#### Saipan mayor wants more funds for beautification

Saipan Mayor Jose C. Sablan has intensified the island's beautification program but claimed he could have done more if the budget for his office would be increased. This year, the Office of the Mayor received a \$2.1 million in appropriation but Mr. Sablan is seeking a \$4 million budget for Fiscal 2001. "There are so many bad roads that needs repair and garbage left lying around the road such as junk cars and large metal trash," he said. Mr. Sablan lamented that the lack of funds has derailed the implementation of the stray animal project. A building for the Stray Animal Office in Kagman has been built but nothing has been done by the staff since funds are not sufficient to run the program.

#### Mar. 3, 2003

## **Drill underscores the power of support**

Bloodied bodies lied motionless on the ground as a network of law enforcers tried to negotiate but ended up in an exchange of gunfire with four terrorists who hijacked a commercial airplane at the Saipan International Airport. The scene was gruesome and terrifying but it was just play. Not the kind of play that's done for fun, though. It was conducted to prepare CNMI law and security enforcers for such a situation—if it ever happens on Saipan. Officers from various law enforcement and public safety local and federal government agencies throughout the CNMI pooled their sources and efforts together for the biggest bio-terrorism drill ever held in the Commonwealth.

## BoS runs after U.S. firms in Texas court

With rehabilitation underway, the Bank of Saipan disclosed it is running after several U.S. companies it accused of fraudulently obtaining some \$5-million in the scheme of a loan, which led to the bank's unsound condition last year and paved the way to the financial institution being placed under receivership. BoS accused Bert Douglas Montgomery and Dusean Berkich of facilitating the alleged fraudulent transaction, when they were in the process of controlling the bank last year. Montgomery tendered money to JLH Pacific Trust and the Calvo shareholders to acquire majority stock shares of the bank, but JLH and the Calvos contend the transfer of shares fizzled out.

## Mar. 3, 2004

## CRM cites CUC for sewage overflow

The Coastal Resources Management Office yesterday issued the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. a citation over the recurring sewage overflows in Tanapag, saying the situation poses a serious threat to public health and has degraded the nearby coastal waters. CRMO director Joaquin D. Salas threatened the CUC with monetary fine if the latter fails to comply with mandated corrective measures. The citation indicated that it was the "final warning notice." Salas said the CUC also failed to post advisories to warn beach goers about the impact of the sewage overflows on marine water quality. He declared the overflows as threats to the health of those using the nearby Tanapag Social Hall and the Children's Park.

## **House reprograms funds for Saipan projects**

The House of Representatives agreed yesterday to take away money originally meant for the Precinct 2 water reservoir project to finance road improvements in Precinct 4, as proposed under House Bill 14-51. The bill stirred debate among minority and majority members, although it eventually gained unanimous support from all 17 lawmakers present during a session yesterday. Minority leader Heinz S. Hofschneider was particularly curious as to why Floor Leader Oscar Babauta was willing to part with the \$400,000 that he and former Precinct 2 Rep. Andrew S. Salas fought to secure during the 13th Legislature, during which Hofschneider was speaker.

Editor's Note: Information subject to change without prior notice. All information provided by the respective churches. If you want your church or religious activities included or to report changes and errors, call Saipan Tribune at 235-6397 or 235-2440 or email editor@saipantribune.com.

## Maharlika

## Diocese adds voice to clamor for retention of PH consulate

By CLARISSA V. DAVID

clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com REPORTER

he Diocese of Chalan Kanoa on Thursday asked the Philippine government to reconsider its plan to close down the Philippine Consulate General on Saipan this year due to budgetary constraints, recommending instead the downsizing of the consular office to continue protecting the welfare of Filipino workers in the CNMI.

Fr. Ryan P. Jimenez, apostolic administrator for the diocese, wrote to President Benigno S. Aquino III to make his appeal on behalf of the thousands of Filipinos and their families in the 13 parishes on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Jimenez said the diocese is with the Filipino community in saying that the Philippine Consulate General on Saipan should "continue its presence in ensuring the rights, interests, and the protection of' Filipinos who live and work in the CNMI.

ipino workers in the Commonwealth "comprise the majority of the islands' workforce," he

According to Jimenez, the Filipino community in the CNMI is "concerned and disconcerted" by the Department of Foreign Affairs' decision to consolidate foreign service posts in the Pacific "at a precarious time" when Filipino workers are confronted by challenges affecting their livelihood and welfare.

The Philippine Consulate General on Saipan announced on Feb. 9 the plan to shut down its office and transfer its responsibilities to Guam. The exact date of the transfer has yet to be announced.

The consulate, Jimenez said, has played a significant role in the lives of Filipino workers in the Commonwealth for about 23 years since it opened on April 3, 1989.

"Aside from providing the customary consular services, the Philippine Consulate has

Estimated at over 8,000, Fil- looked after the general welfare of the islands' Filipino citizens by providing representation and being their voice in the local community on issues that affect theirs and their families' everyday life," he said.

Jimenez cited Public Law 110-229 or the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008, which was signed on May 8, 2008, and implemented on Nov. 28, 2009, placing CNMI immigration under federal control, as one reason to retain the services of the Consulate.

Under the federalization law, the CNMI Department of Labor-issued "umbrella" or work permits for nonresident workers were phased out and replaced with the Commonwealth-only transitional worker status for the duration of the transition period, which ends in Dec. 31, 2014.

"While the eventuality exists that the Northern Marianas' migrant worker program will be gone in a few years, it is still imperative and critical at this time to protect the interest and well-being of the islands' Filipino community through official government representation, which only the

Philippine Consulate can provide," said Jimenez.

He noted that the consulate is "a constant reminder" of the longstanding commitment of the Philippine government to ensure that its citizens

and their rights and interests are protected and upheld, especially when they are under threat.

Jimenez

He added that the consulate's presence is significant in the case of Emerita "Emie" R. Romero, the Godfather's bartender "who was mercilessly killed by a still unknown assailant" last month.

While local and federal law enforcement are working to find Ms. Romero's assailant, vigilance in pursuing that justice is served and carried out may be achieved through ample representation by the Philippine Consulate," said Jimenez.

As an alternative, Jimenez recommended that DFA consider downsizing the consulate, which has about 10 staff at present.

"This way, the Philippine government can still continue

By CLARISSA V. DAVID

clarissa david@saipantribune.com

The Philippine Consulate Gen-

eral is looking at highlighting

the students of its Tailoring and

Dressmaking Batch 2 in this

vear's celebration of Philippine

Students in other courses such

as Building and Fixing Comput-

ers and Culinary classes were

Macaraig said that this time, the

Tailoring and Dressmaking stu-

dents will have the spotlight and

have their creations presented in

Macaraig said this would

a fashion show.

Consul General Medardo

featured in past celebrations.

Independence Day in June.

to protect the livelihoods and wellbeing of its more than 8,000 migrant workers and Philippine citizens on Saipan, Tinian and

Rota," concluded Jimenez.

## 'Significant'

United Filipino Organization president Bong Malasarte welcomed the diocese's position on the issue, saying it will help

them make their case in encouraging more Filipinos to sign their petition.

UFO, the umbrella organization of some 30 groups in the CNMI, launched last month a signature campaign seeking to retain the services of the Consulate.

"With Fr. Ryan's letter, we are hopeful that DFA will listen in our clamor to have the Philippine Consulate remain open and continue serving the Filipinos in the CNMI," Malasarte told Saipan Tribune.

Malasarte revealed that they have now gathered some 3,000 signatures, majority of which are from Saipan. He said they collected about 340 signatures on Tinian and 200 on Rota with the help of community leaders Francis Esguerra and Ali Badilles, respectively.

According to Malasarte, they aim to have at least 4,000 or half of the estimated 8,000 Filipino workers in the Commonwealth support the signature campaign efforts, expected to wrap up on March 9.

"We are optimistic that we will reach our target since we have already distributed our petition forms to several establishments such as hotels and stores," he added.

Malasarte emphasized that the UFO is spearheading the signature campaign not for its benefit but for the entire Filipino community.

"We are not doing this to become popular or because we want to take credit for anything, contrary to what others think. Our efforts are aimed at helping all Filipinos who need the services of the consulate. As Filipinos, we should all work together instead of bringing people down," he said.

Malasarte said the signatures will be accompanied by a letter that reflects the sentiments of the Filipino community as a whole before they are sent to Manila.

Those who want to sign the petition may contact Paul Madriaga at 287-4501.

## CNMI senators make goodwill visit to Philippines

A CNMI senatorial delegation composed of Senate President Paul A. Manglona, Sen. Ralph Torres, and Sen. Frank Cruz and the U.S. Pinoys for Good Governance delegation met with Philippine President Benigno Aquino III's deputy executive secretary Teofilo Pilando at the Malacanang Palace recently.

At the meeting, they discussed the USP4GG advocacies and issues on Medicare Demonstration Portability Project, which will allow Philippine accredited hospitals to directly bill Medicare for CNMI and Guam residents, the closure of the Philippine Consulate General office on Saipan, immigration issues faced by Filipinos in the CNMI, and U.S. visa waiver for Filipinos in Guam and the CNMI, among other things.

Prominent Filipinos, including philanthropist Filipino-American leader Loida Nicolas Lewis and internationally renowned stem cell expert Dr. Samuel Bernal, and government officials were very much impressed with the three CNMI senators and their humanist attitudes and approach



Standing from left, CNMI Sen. Ralph Torres, Senate President Paul Manglona, Sen. Frank Cruz, Vincent Manglona (brother of Sen. Paul Manglona), and USP4GG member Eric Lachica. Seated from left, USP4GG member Dr. Bambi Lorica; attorney Ted Laguatan, legal counsel and spokesperson of USP4GG; Deputy Executive Secretary Teofilo Pilando Jr. of the Office of Philippine President Benigno Aquino III, and Josie Laguatan.

toward Filipinos living for years in the CNMI with immigration problems. Their visit to the Philippines resulted in so much goodwill for the CNMI and its people. The three senators forged lifelong friendships with their hosts.

Attorney Ted Laguatan, a respected U.S. lawyer with residences in California and the Philippines, stated that Senate

President Manglona exhibited outstanding statesmanship in leading this goodwill visit to the Philippines with senators Torres and Cruz

"Not only have these senators gained our respect, they have also endeared themselves to the Filipinos they have met. They will always be given a warm welcome in the Philippines," Laguatan added. (PR)

motivate the students to do well in their classes and, at the same

time, acknowledge and recognize their talent and hard work.

Consulate eyes highlighting tailors and

dressmakers at Independence Day event

Welfare officer Julie Fabian, in a separate interview yesterday, said a total of 15 individuals signed up for the Tailoring and Dressmaking class but a few have been missing a session or two because of part-time jobs or other personal errands. The class is under instructor Domingo Del Rosario.

"That's why we plan to invite our batch 1 graduates to have more individuals join us during our Philippine Independence celebration so we can showcase more creations from our upand-coming tailors and dressmakers," said Fabian.

The classes are offered by the Consulate with the Philippine Overseas Labor Office.

In other news, the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration signed up a total of 489 members in February.

Fabian said this is their highest number of new applications and renewal of membership in the last 12 months.

They are also working on following up with several companies that have asked for an OWWA presentation for their Filipino employees.

We will be doing that after we're done with our free health screening on Sunday," she told Saipan Tribune.

Fabian said their hands are full for the health screening as the OWWA office only has two employees. The other one is Antonette Rosario Ocon.

## UFO gears up for upcoming events

Officers of the United Filipino Organization met yesterday evening to begin planning and preparation for the group's events next month.

UFO president Bong Malasarte said in an interview before the meeting that the group is scheduled to sponsor a booth to provide refreshments to Catholic pilgrims in the annual Mt.

Tapochao trek on Good Friday.

He said the group will also host an inter-organizational basketball league later in April to develop sportsmanship and camaraderie among various orga-

nizations affiliated with UFO. "We will be occupied with the logistics of these two events."

Malasarte told Saipan Tribune. Malasarte said financial con-

straints are their major challenge in conducting UFO programs such as the Tapochao trek and the basketball league. "But with the support of our community, we hope to make it a successful reality," he added.

After their April events, Malasarte said they will prep up for the Pistang Pinoy, which is their biggest annual community event that celebrates Philippine Independence Day. (Clarissa V. David)

## CFO launches 2012 Presidential Awards, Migration Advocacy and Media Awards

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Commission on Filipinos Overseas formally opened nominations for both the 2012 Presidential Awards and the Migration Advocacy and Media Awards.

Since 1991, the Presidential Awards aim to recognize Filipinos who have selflessly supported relief, rehabilitation, and development programs in the home country. Some 338 overseas Filipino individuals, organizations and their foreign partners have received the award so far.

The CFO conceived the gration, advocated the cause MAM Awards in 2011 in celebration of the Month of Overseas Filipinos and International Migrants Day in the Philippines. Eligible are works by any individual, government, and private media outlets, institutions and practitioners in the fields of print, radio, movie, and television, advertising and Internet based in the Philippines and abroad that have raised public awareness on issues on Filipino mi-

and/or promoted a positive image of Filipinos overseas, and migration and development.

Interested parties may refer to the CFO website at www.cfo. gov.ph for further information. Questions or concerns regarding the awards may be addressed to Arianne S. Omaga at email aomaga@cfo.gov.ph or Frencel Tingga at email ftingga@cfo. gov.ph or through telephone numbers (632) 552-4761 to 66 and (632) 561-8291. (PR)

## Aguirre faces detention, listening to Santiago 24/7

By CHRISTIAN V. ESGUERRA, TJ **BURGONIO** 

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

For showing disrespect for the Senate tribunal, Vitaliano Aguirre II faces detention for 48 hours and fed sashimi and wasabi or for 24 hours be forced to listen to video speeches of Senator Miriam Defensor-Santiago.

Aguirre has apologized for covering his ears with his hands as Santiago blasted the prosecution for what she regarded as yet another show of incompetence.

The volunteer prosecutor admitted his demeanor on Wednesday during the nationally televised Senate trial of Chief Justice Renato Corona was "contemptuous."

But Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile and Santiago both made it clear on Thursday that Aguirre would be punished.

"If I would have my way, he should be made to sleep here for two nights and we will serve him sashimi," Enrile told reporters in Filipino, referring to the Senate detention facility on the ground floor.

Half-joking, he said the raw seafood—a favorite Japanese dish-would include "lots of wasabi," the spicy green paste made of horseradish.

But Santiago, whose blood pressure rose to 190/90 shortly after her verbal clash with Aguirre on the Senate floor, had something else in mind.

She said she was open to a



suggestion of some "playful" (maharot) senators, abandoning the usual penalty of 10-day imprisonment and a fine of up to

"They said he could be jailed for 24 hours in our detention facility and be made to listen to my speeches whether he likes it or not," she said in a phone

An irate Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago covers her ears during a tumultuous moment in the impeachment trial of Chief Justice Renato Corona on Wednesday after private prosecutor Vitaliano Aguirre III was caught on camera covering his ears as Santiago was berating the prosecution panel. Aguirre, who said his ears "were hurting," was later cited in contempt for disrespect of a senator-judge.

patch with reporters.

Asked if Aguirre's hands would be tied so he could not cover his ears once again, she laughed and said the prosecutor would not be allowed to do so. "Hindi pwede," she said. No way, Jose.

**Bizarre apology** 

Whatever punishment would be dealt will be discussed in a Senate caucus on Tuesday.

Aguirre on Thursday offered what seemed to be a half-baked apology to Santiago.

"I apologize to Senator Santiago for hurting her, for causing her discomfort. But I won't apologize for what I did. I'm standing by what I said yesterday," Aguirre said in a phone interview. "I did something wrong, but it's a small wrong. Sometimes you do these things to get your message across."

Asked for comment, Santiago said Aguirre's statement was "very strange," noting that "normally, when you apologize, you adopt a contrite attitude."

"Even if he apologized, the court will not withdraw its finding of direct contempt," she said. "We have to preserve the dignity of the court. That's why even if I was the one affected, all the senators were unanimous (in citing him in contempt) because it was an affront to the entire impeachment court."

Santiago, a tiger trial judge, said the judgment of contempt would stick on Aguirre's professional record

"This is very serious for him to be arrogant about it," she said.

## **Heckler in gallery**

Santiago said Aguirre used to heckle her while seated in the gallery. Wednesday was the first time he was seated in the prosecution panel, she said.

Aguirre denied he was planted there to taunt her-a behavior noticed by an incensed Senator Jose "Jinggoy" Estrada and caught by Senator Alan Peter Cayetano on his camera phone.

Enrile said he shared Santiago's frustration, which was directed at prosecutors for their apparent blunders since the impeachment trial began seven weeks ago.

## 27,000 Filipino policemen don't have official guns

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)— volatile south. More than 27,000 Philippine police officers—about a fifth of the national force—do not have government-issued guns, prompting many of them to rely on their own guns to battle criminals and insurgents, officials said Wednesday.

Like the underfunded Philippine military, one of Asia's weakest, the 140,000-strong police have struggled with scarce funds and weapons while dealing with widespread crimes, decades-long communist and Muslim rebellions and attacks and threats from al-Qaidalinked militants in the country's

Budget Secretary Florencio Abad said his department has released \$5.7 million (254 million pesos) to purchase 12,696 9mm pistols and arm less than half of the police officers and recruits without governmentprovided arms.

"Right now, several police officers cannot fully execute their duties because they don't have their own firearms," Abad said. "We cannot afford a toothless security force."

National police spokesman Agrimero Cruz Jr. said the problem has forced many police officers to use their own

firearms to battle criminals and insurgents.

Interior Secretary Jesse Robredo, who is in charge of the national police, blamed the problem on money lost to corruption and wrong priorities by past officials, who appropriated funds for such projects as renovating a swimming pool in a police camp.

A crackdown on corruption and suspicious deals has allowed the government to save money last year to finance the purchase of firearms and build an initial 21,000 houses for police officers and 34,000 more in the near future, Abad said.



## **OIL PRICE HIKE PROTEST**

Protesters shout slogans as they are pushed back by police during a surprise rally to protest the almost weekly price increase of gasoline, diesel and other oil products, outside the Presidential Palace in Manila, Philippines, Thursday March 1, 2012. The protesters accused Philippine President Benigno Aquino III allegedly of taking sides with big oil players in the seeming wanton overpricing of oil products and demanded the dismantling of its monopoly by calling for the implementation of the oil deregulation law. The three major oil companies raised the pump prices anew Wednesday allegedly due to concerns in the Middle East and the sanctions imposed by the West on Iran.

PHILIPPINE BRIEFS

## Philippine magazine apologizes over 'racist'

MANILA, Philippines (AP)— A Philippine men's magazine has apologized and pulled its cover after critics described it as racist. FHM Philippines said it has decided to change the cover of its March issue which showed a fair-skinned actress, Bela Padilla, in a hot pink bikini flanked by dark-skinned women in black bikinis. The caption said, "Bela Padilla stepping out of the shadows." Padilla, a soap opera star, has a Filipino mother and a British father. The magazine said after uploading the issue on its Facebook page it received a slew of complaints that the cover was racist. FHM apologized and said it will use a different cover when the magazine hits newsstands in March. It said it will strive to be more sensitive in the future.

#### Officials: US pledges \$144M for Philippine defense

MANILA, Philippines (AP)— Officials say Washington has pledged to provide \$144 million in addition to a warship this year to help bolster the Philippines' territorial defense. The Philippines has turned to the United States, a defense-treaty ally, and other Western countries to acquire warships, fighter jets and

radar to strengthen its security amid a long-simmering territorial dispute with China and other countries in the South China Sea. The U.S. has already provided one warship and approved the delivery of a second one this year. Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario confirmed the assistance late Wednesday and said he and other officials would visit Washington on April 30 to seek additional aid and discuss joint military exercises.

#### **Gunmen in Philippines** wound radio commentator

MANILA, Philippines (AP)— Two motorcyle-riding gunmen have shot and wounded a radio commentator in the central Philippines in the latest attack on journalists in the country. Senior Police Inspector Stephen Somosot says Fernando Gabio was outside his home in Iloilo city on Friday when the assailants fired three shots, hitting Gabio's leg. The 62-year-old Gabio was in stable condition at a hospital. Gabio hosts the "Mr. Expose" program on Radyo Mo Nationwide. The show tackles topics such as corruption. Somosot says Gabio had received death threats from unknown telephone callers. The National Union of Journalists of the Philippines says 150 journalists

have been killed since 1986. The New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists has ranked the Philippines as the second-deadliest country for journalists next to Iraq.

## **Purge of Philippine** envoys seen

The days of poor performing Filipino diplomats are numbered, Foreign Secretary Albert del Rosario has warned, as he stressed the need for foreign service personnel in the home office and 94 missions abroad to "aim for excellence" and "be a yardstick of quality." Speaking before the Manila Overseas Press Club at a Makati City hotel, Del Rosario on Wednesday night said the Department of Foreign Affairs was now "known to have the best and the brightest" personnel and was the agency "that truly never sleeps." "The challenge is how to fully unleash their potential. We feel there are several ways to move forward, including by restoring morale in the department, upgrading the skills of its people, setting clearer objectives, placing a premium on results and performance-based evaluation, injecting meritocracy in the system, demanding a higher degree of professionalism, and replacing people who do not perform," he said. Philippine Daily Inquirer

## Filipino rebels suspend 3 commanders over clash

MANILA, Philippines (AP)— The largest Muslim rebel group in the Philippines has suspended three key commanders involved 19 soldiers and endangered a yearslong cease-fire.

Moro Islamic Liberation Front rebel leader Mohagher Igbal said Thursday that the three commanders on southern Basilan island were suspended for three months after an investigation by Malaysian-led peace monitors found they violated a cease-fire accord with the government.

The probe showed government troops also violated the truce, officials and the rebels

Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin welcomed the rebel move, saying the punishment was light but acknowledged that

the rebels made a mistake.

The Oct. 18 clash erupted when army special forces attempted to arrest Moro Islamic in an October clash that killed Liberation Front commander Dan Laksaw Asnawi in his hilly stronghold near Al-Barka town on southern Basilan island and another allied militant. Asnawi has been blamed for the 2007 beheadings of 10 marines during a clash in Al-Barka, a rebel stronghold.

Asnawi was captured but escaped from a jail in 2009 with the help of his comrades.

Rebel spokesman Von Al Haq said the punishment meted on the three commanders underscored the guerrillas' sincerity. "If both sides don't own up to mistakes, it's hard to push for reforms," Al Haq said.

The army loss in October, one

of the largest in a single clash in recent years, sparked calls for President Benigno Aquino III to break a truce and launch a major offensive to punish the guerrillas. Aquino dismissed the calls and decided to proceed with peace talks with the rebels, who have been fighting for Muslim-rule in the country's south for decades.

A government investigation after the Oct. 18 clash blamed Basilan-based army commanders for lapses that led to the deaths of the 19 soldiers. Four officers were relieved from their posts, and the military said officers will recommend soon whether they should face court martial or be cleared.

The next round of peace talks is scheduled March 19-21 in Malaysia, which is brokering the talks.

## Samu't Sari









## AT THE NGA

From left, Gov. Bob McDonnell (Virginia), Gov. Benigno Fitial (CNMI), and Gov. Bobby Jindal (Louisiana) share a moment following one of the plenary sessions at the National Governors Association's Winter Meeting in Washington, D.C.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

## **DC MEETING**

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, seated third from right, and other members of the Western Governors Association pose for a photo with ranking administration officials, seated from left, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, CEQ Chair Nancy Sutley (partly hidden), EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson, and Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

## **Business**

## Jobs picture brightens, but economy awaits liftoff

WASHINGTON (AP)-After Institute for Economic Comyears of bad news begetting more bad news, the American economy may finally be building momentum in the other direction.

A flurry of economic reports issued Thursday captured some solid recent gains: Companies are hiring. Factories and department stores are busier. Americans are buying more cars.

And the stock market just ended its best February in 14 years.

But Thursday's reports also showed that a healthier job market hasn't translated into bigger paychecks for workers or a surge in consumer spending. And the progress of the past few months is now threatened by a rise in gasoline prices.

On one hand, analysts say the economy may be on the verge of a "virtuous cycle," in which stronger hiring fuels more consumer spending, which leads to even more hiring and spending.

On the other hand, even months of improvement have yet to demonstrate that the cycle can sustain itself.

"When you get this sort of hodgepodge and not-so-good results, you start to see the true nature of this recovery," said Sean Snaith, director of the University of Central Florida's

petitiveness.

A healthier job market hasn't produced bigger paychecks or a surge in consumer spending. The housing market is still weak. A European recession threatens to hold back U.S. growth.

Thursday's reports showed an economy maintaining its growth 2 1/2 years after the official end of the Great Recession: The number of people applying for first-time unemployment benefits fell last week to a fouryear low. And automakers, such as Ford and Chrysler, and many retailers, including Target Corp. and Macy's Inc., reported improved sales for February.

At the same time, the government said consumer spending flat-lined in January after adjusting for inflation. Manufacturing activity grew at a slower pace in February as factories received fewer orders and had to pay more for raw materials. And construction spending slipped in January, the first monthly drop since July.

Another worrisome sign is that gas prices are headed toward \$4 a gallon.

All that comes even as a strong report this week on consumer confidence helped lift



In this Feb. 28, 2012 file photo, workmen prepare the Valley Forge Casino Resort for its upcoming opening, in Valley Forge, Pa.

the Dow Jones industrial average past 13,000 for the first time since May 2008. Unemployment has dropped for five straight months. And the economy has generated nearly 2 million jobs over the past year.

Once a virtuous cycle feeds on itself, optimistic consumers spend more, which motivates businesses to hire more. And so on.

That still might happen. But

consumers are struggling to sustain their confidence after the housing market collapsed and the resulting recession vaporized \$7.8 trillion in household wealth from 2006 through mid-2011.

"The recovery is still bearing the scars of the recession and the crisis that led into it," Snaith said.

Even the Federal Reserve appears baffled by the economy's unpredictability.

Chairman Ben Bernanke told lawmakers this week that the recovery remains "uneven and modest by historical standards." Yet he also acknowledged that the Fed underestimated the job market's strength, which has led to sharp declines in unemployment.

The Fed might need to reexamine its outlook—and policies- if that strength continues, he suggested.

Miserly employers aren't helping. Pay raises are all but invisible. Across the country, wages and salaries rose less (\$25.5 billion) in January than in December (\$29.9 billion) even though the economy added 243,000 jobs in the interim.

That means, says Joel Naroff of Naroff Economic Advisors, that the pay increases must have gone disproportionately to unemployed people who found work and began collecting a paycheck—not the vast majority of workers who already had jobs.

In fact, once inflation and taxes are factored in, incomes fell in January.

Higher gasoline prices are threatening to pinch consumers just as they did last spring. Oil prices are up 9 percent this year to nearly \$109 a barrel. And gasoline prices are up 30 cents to \$3.74 a gallon over the past month, according to AAA's Daily Fuel Gauge.

Economists say today's prices probably won't do much damage to the economy. That's because the economy is healthier than it was early last year, when higher gas prices slowed growth and consumers cut back on clothes, food and other items.

## As gas prices rise, Detroit is ready

**DETROIT** (AP)—Gas prices cent of new-car sales were are spiking. But this time, Detroit is ready.

When prices soared in 2008, the city's three U.S. automakers were caught flat-footed. They didn't have competitive small cars and relied on trucks and SUVs for profits. When gas prices peaked at \$4.12 in July of that year, sales from the Big Three plummeted more than 20 percent. That same month, sales of the fuel-sipping Toyota Corolla jumped 16 percent.

Fast forward to February 2012. Overall U.S. auto sales rose 16 percent to 1.1 million last month, largely on the strength of Detroit's small cars. The annual sales pace hit 15.1 million, the best rate in four years.

This time, the Detroit Three saw a 13-percent sales increase. The difference: They have spent billions since 2008 to roll out new models such as the Dodge Dart and Chevrolet Cruze.

The timing is fortunate. Buyers are shifting to small cars again. Twenty-three persmall cars in February, up from 17.9 percent in December, according to auto information site Edmunds.com.

So far, the shift isn't as dramatic as it was in 2008, when small-car sales leaped to 27 percent of the market in May as gas suddenly spiked to near \$4 per gallon. But prices have never been as high for this time of year. The price of a gallon of gas is up 46 cents this year to an average of \$3.74. Analysts say gas could hit \$4.25 by late April.

It bodes well for Detroit, which has a newfound confidence that it can weather the pain at the pump

"We are very well positioned as a company to thrive in a world of escalating gasoline prices," Bill Ford, chairman of Ford Motor Co, told The Associated Press in a recent interview.

Sales of the Focus small car, which Ford rolled out last year, more than doubled to 23,350, making it the best February for the Focus in 12 years.

## Even after backlash, banks quietly pursuing fees **NEW YORK** (AP)—Big Fargo has charged \$15 a month

banks, facing declining revenues and a regulatory climate that leaves them fewer creative ways to make money, are quietly introducing or experimenting with fees that are sure to outrage customers.

Bank of America was shouted down by angry customers last fall when it tried to impose a \$5 monthly fee for using a debit card. JPMorgan Chase and Wells Fargo backed off plans to impose their own fees.

But the major banks have imposed or are testing other fees:

for some checking accounts unless customers have three accounts with the bank, maintain a minimum balance of \$7,500 or have a Wells Fargo mortgage.

■ Some Citibank customers are being charged \$20 a month unless they keep \$15,000 in their accounts, up from \$6,000 before December. They're also being dinged with a \$2 fee for using non-Citi ATMs if their balance falls below the minimum.

■ Bank of America, even after a backlash last fall when it tried to impose a \$5 monthly ■ Since November, Wells fee for debit card transactions, have the least capacity to meet largest banks.

accounts in Georgia, Massachusetts and Arizona with monthly fees of \$6 to \$25.

Banks aren't charities, and they say they need to make money, or at least cover the cost of doing business. Consumer groups-and customers, too, it's safe to assume—have a less forgiving view.

"Banks have a short-term memory," says Norma Garcia, senior attorney at Consumers Union. "These fees affect all consumers, but particularly impact the most vulnerable, who orders has doubled to \$2 at the

is testing a menu of checking minimum balances and avoid

Nothing in banking is free anymore. All of the largest banks in the United States offered free checking with no strings attached until 2009, and almost none do today, says Mike Moebs, the founder of Moebs Services, a financial research company.

And what wasn't free before costs a lot more these days: Moebs' research shows that cashiers' checks that used to cost \$3 now cost as much as \$12, and the cost to get money

## Europe seeks growth as austerity takes its toll

growth, in a concession that their focus on austerity as the key to solving the debt crisis is not working as unemployment hits record highs and recession looms over the region.

The heads of the 27 European Union governments meeting at a summit in Brussels on Thurshamstrung by the commitment to reduce debts, the leaders were short on concrete proposals. Rather than stimulus, they are considering gradual structural reforms such as cutting red tape and improving business conditions.

"This was not a meeting fo-

mitted to supporting economic jobs. But with public policies growth," said European Comits bailout loans. mission President Jose Manuel Barroso after the summit, which for the first time in months was held under relatively calm conditions in financial markets.

> Nowhere is the impact of Europe's austerity policy more obvious than in Greece, which faces a fifth year of recession as

BRUSSELS (AP)—Europe's day discussed how to improve cused on crisis management, it strains to push through a list of leaders have said they are com- economic activity and create it was a meeting focused on austerity reforms required to tap

> The finance ministers of the euro currency union, who met in Brussels ahead of the gettogether of heads and state and government, signed off in principle on a first batch of bailout money Greece needs to implement a massive debt relief deal with private investors.

## LEADING INDICATORS

S&P DOW 12,980.30 1,374.09 +28.23 +0.22% +0.62%

NASDAQ 2,988.97 +22.08 +0.74%

## **EXCHANGE RATES**

S	Australian Dollar	0.9291
terms	British Pound	0.6276
ollar	Canadian Dollar	0.9876
In U.S. dollar	Chinese Yuan	6.3040
In U.	Euro	0.7504

Hong Kong Dollar	7.7561
Indian Rupee	49.4560
Indonesian Rupiah	9,157.5
Japanese Yen	81.1030
Malaysian Ringgit	3.0040
New Zealand Dollar	1.2756

Philippine Peso	42.8816
Singapore Dollar	1.2500
South Korean Won	1,118.9
Swiss Franc	0.9046
Taiwan Dollar	29.4464
Thailand Baht	30.5623

## **Nation**

## Santorum attacks Romney as contraception roils GOP

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP)— Seizing an opportunity to instill doubts about Mitt Romney's conservative credentials, Rick Santorum on Thursday said his presidential rival's gut reaction to a Senate measure that would have repealed mandatory health coverage for contraceptives shows the former Massachusetts governor is not conservative "at the core."

Romney opened himself to criticism the day before by telling a reporter that he opposed a Republican bill to block President Barack Obama's policy on contraceptive insurance coverage. Hours later, Romney reversed himself and said he had misunderstood the question.

But the damage was done. Santorum used the opening to score political points just five days before Super Tuesday's 10-state voting, suggesting that Romney was too moderate to defeat Obama in November.

"We aren't going to win with



Republican presidential candidate, former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum speaks during during a campaign rally at the New Life Assembly of God, Thursday, March 1, 2012, in Spokane, Wash.

the very people that we need to excite," Santorum said during a rally inside the New Life Assembly of God church. "We

someone who doesn't excite won 2010 not because we nominated moderates!"

> The issue of contraceptive coverage resonates with conservative primary voters, but it

each party's priorities that could have general election ramifications. While the issue roiled the Republican presidential contest, Obama railed against oil and

into Romney's fundamental challenge in his second White opponents with money and organization, but he has struggled to win over his party's right flank because of lingering concerns about his social conservative bona fides. The turnabout in message also allowed his critics to once again label him a flip-flopper.

Addressing a town hall-style meeting in North Dakota, Romney briefly spoke in favor of the Senate provision that pitted religious freedom against women's privacy rights and riled Americans in this volatile election year. He called Obama's decision to compel insurance companies to offer contraceptive coverage—even for employees of religious-affiliated institutions—"an attack on the First Amendment."

"Fortunately, there's an effort in Washington to stop that, to reverse that," Romney said.

That effort failed, however. The Senate voted 51-48 to kill an amendment offered by Sen. Roy Blunt, R-Mo., that would have allowed employers and insurers to opt out of portions of the president's health care law they found morally objectionable. That

House bid. He dominates his would have included the law's requirement that insurers cover the costs of birth control.

> Democrats said the measure would have allowed employers and insurers to opt out of virtually any medical treatment with the mere mention of a moral or religious objection.

> A spokesman for Republican presidential candidate Newt Gingrich, R.C. Hammond, said if Gingrich had been a senator, he would have voted for the Blunt amendment. "The government doesn't have a role in dictating people's religion to them," Hammond said.

> Separately, Gingrich's campaign said it was issuing an anti-Santorum "robocall" challenging Santorum's fiscal conservative record.

"As senator from Pennsylvania, Santorum cozied up to the labor bosses and voted for the AFL-CIO and against a national right to work bill that would have let workers opt out of paying union dues," say the automated call, which will go to 150,000 households in both Oklahoma and Tennessee, among the states set to vote Tuesday.

## GOP senators fail to reverse birth control rule

WASHINGTON (AP)—In an election year battle mixing birth control, religion and politics, Democrats narrowly blocked an effort by Senate Republicans to overturn President Barack Obama's order that most employers or their insurers cover the cost of contraceptives.

The 51-48 vote on Thursday killed a measure that would have allowed employers and insurers to opt out of portions of the president's health care law they found morally objectionable. That would have included the law's requirement to cover the costs of birth control.

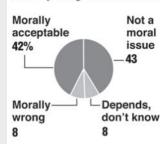
Sen. Olympia Snowe, who this week dropped her re-election bid and cited frustration with the polarized Congress, cast the lone Republican vote to block the measure. Two Democrats up for re-election and one who is retiring voted against Obama's requirement.

Majority Democrats said the legislation would have allowed employers and insurers to avoid virtually any medical treatment with the mere mention of a moral or religious objection.

"We have never had a conscience clause for insurance companies," said Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif. Insurers, she

## **Poll: Using** birth control

A small share of Americans say using contraceptives is morally wrong. Percentage who say using birth control is:



NOTE: Does not tally to 100% because of rounding.

of error; +/-3 percentage points Graphic: Judy Treible © 2012 MCT

said, don't need an invitation to deny coverage for medical treatment. "A lot of them don't have any consciences. They'll

Republicans argued that the requirement under the health care overhaul violates the First Amendment's guarantee of religious freedom by forcing insurers and employers to pay for contraception for workers even if the employers' faith forbids its use. Roman Catholic leaders have strongly opposed the requirement.

The Senate vote aside, the debate "won't be over until the administration figures out how to accommodate people's religious views as it relates to these mandates," said the measure's sponsor, Sen. Roy Blunt, R-Mo. "This is a debate that might be settled at that building across the street," he said, referring to the Supreme Court.

Such cultural issues have been prominent in this presidential election year, with Republican presidential candidates casting Obama's health care law as government overreach into the most personal types of medical decisions. The contraception policy in particular touches on religious and women's rights important to the activists at the core of each party.

A majority of Americans support the use of contraceptives. The public is generally in favor of requiring birth control coverage for employees of religiously affiliated employers, according to a CBS News/ New York Times poll Feb. 8-13. The survey found that 61 percent favor the mandate, while 31 percent oppose it. Catholics support the requirement at about the same rate as all Americans.

## gas company subsidies in New Hampshire. The dispute offered a window

also offers a contrast between

Arizona sheriff unveils Obama birth probe **PHOENIX** (AP)—America's self-proclaimed toughest sheriff finds himself entangled these days in his own thorny legal troubles: a federal grand jury probe over alleged abuse of power, Justice Department accusations of racial profiling and revelations that his department didn't ad-

Rather than seek cover, though, Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio is seeking to grab the spotlight in the same unorthodox fashion that has helped boost his career as a nationally known lawman.

equately investigate hundreds of

Arizona sex-crime cases.

Arpaio on Thursday unveiled preliminary results of an investigation, conducted by members of his volunteer cold-case posse, into the authenticity of President Barack Obama's birth certificate, a controversy that has been widely debunked but which remains alive in the eyes of some conservatives.

At a news conference, Arpaio said the probe revealed that there was probable cause to believe

#### Obama's long-form birth certificate released by the White House in April is a computer-generated forgery. He also said the selective service card completed by Obama in 1980 in Hawaii also was most likely a forgery.

"We don't know who the perpetrators are of these documents," Arpaio said, although he said he doesn't think the president forged the documents.

Earlier, the 79-year-old Republican sheriff defended his need to spearhead such an investigation after nearly 250 people connected to an Arizona tea party group requested one last summer.

"I'm not going after Obama," said Arpaio, who has criticized the president's administration for cutting off his federal immigration powers and conducting a civil rights investigation of his office. "I'm just doing my job."

Some critics suggest Arpaio's aim is to divert attention from his own legal troubles while raising his political profile as he seeks a sixth term this year. The sheriff vehemently denies such strategies are in play.

"You say I need this to get elected? Are you kidding me? I've been elected five times. I don't need this," he said in a recent interview.

Democratic state Sen. Steve Gallardo said Arpaio is pandering to relentless critics of the president.

"It doesn't matter what President Obama does, they'll never support him," Gallardo said. "It's those folks who will continue to write checks to Sheriff Joe because of this stuff."

Arpaio's probe comes amid a federal grand jury investigation into the sheriff's office on criminal abuse-of-power allegations since at least December 2009, focusing on the sheriff's anti-public corruption squad. Separately, the U.S. Justice Department has accused Arpaio's office of racially profiling Latinos, basing immigration enforcement on racially charged citizen complaints and punishing Hispanic jail inmates for speaking Spanish. Arpaio denies the allegations and said the investigation is politically motivated.

## ACROSS THE NATION

## **Criticism grows over NYPD's Muslim spying**

TRENTON, N.J. (AP)—New York City's Police Department is facing mounting criticism of its secret surveillance of Muslims across the Northeast, with ACLU chapters and numerous other groups demanding an investigation and New Jersey's governor

accusing the NYPD of arrogantly acting as if "their jurisdiction is the world." The intelligence-gathering was detailed recently in a series of stories by The Associated Press, which reported that police monitored mosques and Muslims around the metropolitan area and kept tabs on Muslim student groups at universities in

upstate New York, Connecticut, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. The department also sent an undercover agent on a whitewater rafting trip with college students. The tactics have stirred debate over whether the NYPD is trampling on the civil rights of Muslims and illegally engaging in religious and ethnic profiling.

#### Ohio man accused of prostituting adopted boy

TROY, Ohio (AP)—A 10-year-old boy shook when asked about being prostituted to two other men by an adoptive father who regularly had sex with him, according to police, who said the boy was fear-

ful of talking because he didn't want to be taken from his home or separated from his new siblings. The adoptive father has been charged with raping three boys in his care and compelling prostitution by hiring the 10-year-old out for sex. He and two other men remained in jail Thursday on rape charges.

Federal and local law enforcement officials said they're widening the investigation into child sexual exploitation allegations against the father, who worked out of his home as an insurance claims adjuster. His name is being withheld by The Associated Press to protect the children's identities.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE SATURDAY - SUNDAY, MARCH 3-4, 2012 **15** 

## Asia

# US troops tread carefully amid Korea tensions

OBSERVATION POST OUEL-LETTE, South Korea (AP)—Lt. Col. Edward Taylor stands behind a wall of sandbags overlooking the North Korean landscape and a bank of trees along the most fortified border in the world. The trees obstruct the view, he explains. They need to come down.

But this is the DMZ.

The last time anyone tried cutting trees here was 36 years ago, and it set off a melee with the North Koreans. Two U.S. soldiers were hacked to death with their own axes, touching off Operation Paul Bunyan, a full-scale mobilization of fighter jets, B-52 bombers and an aircraft carrier strike group that brought the two sides dangerously close to conflict.

The axes and clubs are still on display in a North Korean museum near the border as evidence of how the U.S.—Pyongyang claims—used the tree-cutting as a pretext to incite mayhem.

But to this day, the U.S. Army believes the 1976 Ax Murder Incident—North Korea calls it the Panmunjom Incident—was a premeditated attempt to boost the hard-line reputation of Kim Jong II, who was then being groomed to eventually succeed his father as North Korea's leader.

With Kim's own son, Kim Jong Un, now cutting his teeth, Taylor knows his pruning plans could be all that is needed to set off America's next big war. He commands the U.S. border battalion tasked with monitoring the Demilitarized Zone and providing security.

Though often overshadowed by more pressing conflicts elsewhere—Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan, and now the staredown with Iran—the potential for bloody hostilities on the Korean Peninsula is as real as ever. If war does break out again, the 28,000 U.S. troops in Korea defending a 60-year-old truce arrangement will be right in the thick of it.

"We are in daily contact, sometimes within arm's reach," Taylor told The



South Korean army soldiers stand guard at a gate of the Imjingak Pavilion near the border village of Panmunjom that separates the two Koreas since the Korean War, in Paju, South Korea, Monday, Feb. 27, 2012.

Associated Press back in his base camp, named after Capt. Arthur Bonifas, one of the two Americans killed in the 1976 clash. "If something happens, it could happen in minutes."

Maybe, he says, the trees can wait.

It's easy to get complacent about Korea. The deadly game of cat-and-mouse on the peninsula hasn't changed much since the 1976 incident, or for that matter since the 1953 armistice to the Korea conflict.

Crises come and go with numbing frequency.

North Korea pushed the fragile truce to its limits two years ago, when Washington and Seoul say it torpedoed and sank a South Korean warship and later launched a limited but fatal artillery strike on a disputed border island. Pyongyang denies sinking the ship and says the artillery firing was provoked by the South Korean military, which

was conducting a live-fire drill nearby. Washington and Seoul play games of their own.

The United States regularly flies U-2 spy planes out of a base near the border that North Korea views as provocative. U.S. and South Korean soldiers frequently conduct patrols along the DMZ, often at night, that bring them into potentially dangerous proximity to their North Korean counterparts.

The three countries' militaries are at their most active right around this time of year.

Each year North Korea's 1.2 million troops, most of them based south of Pyongyang, mobilize for their December-to-April training, which is followed by a lull in the spring and summer as they return to the fields to help plant and harvest. After a brief respite following Kim Jong Il's death in mid-December, the winter training cycle is just reaching its peak.

This is also when the U.S. and South Korea hold their biggest war games. Some 200,000 South Korean and 13,000 U.S. troops are taking part in the annual Foal Eagle maneuvers that began this week and run through April. North Korean media have slammed the exercises as an "unpardonable infringement on our sovereignty."

This year's Foal Eagle is the first since Kim Jong Un assumed power, so Pyongyang's reaction is being closely watched for signs of how the world's youngest commander in chief, believed to be in his late 20s, will lead.

Several U.S. commanders interviewed by the AP said there have been no significant incidents. But they added, that doesn't mean there won't be.

"We don't know what is going to happen in the next month or two months," said Lt. Col. David Rayman, commander of the 25th Fighter Squadron at Osan Air Base, 60 miles (100 kilometers) from the border. "We are always exercising. We're training to the worst-case scenario."

He said his squadron trains in chem gear and gas masks. "We don't do that in the states. We're not doing that in Afghanistan. It's a different war."

All sides have good reason to avoid another full-on fight. The 1950-53 war killed at least 4 million people, including civilians and troops from the two Koreas, China, the United States and other United Nations combatants.

South Korea's response to the incidents

in 2010 was conspicuously measured,

and the tensions gradually eased.

Diplomatic efforts to calm the situation continue. This week North Korea, which is believed to have enough weaponized plutonium for four to eight atomic bombs, agreed to freeze most nuclear activities in exchange for food

But what if cool heads don't pre-

aid from the United States.

Scenarios for how a war with North Korea could unfold range from frightening, if it stays conventional, to catastrophic, if it goes nuclear.

Bruce Bennett, a northeast Asia strategy expert and senior analyst for the RAND Corp. who has advised the U.S., Japanese and South Korean militaries, said any number of triggers could touch that fight off.

Bennett says the battle would unfold rapidly:

■ North Korea launches artillery on South Korea's forward defensive lines and its capital, Seoul, to create panic and a flood of refugees who would clog roads and impede the movement of military units.

The attacks could be laced with Sarin nerve gas and blister agents—North Korea reportedly has 2,500-5,000 tons stockpiled—as commandos infiltrate the South via aircraft, submarines, ships and tunnels under the DMZ.

## **ASIA BRIEFS**

## Thai police: Norwegian hid woman's body for 2 yrs

BANGKOK (AP)—Police in Thailand say they have arrested a Norwegian businessman who admitted killing his Thai girlfriend and keeping her rotting body hidden in his luxurious villa for two and a half years. Police Col. Sirisak Wasasiri said Thursday that 50-year-old Norwegian Stein Havard Dokset confessed late Wednesday to killing the woman by pushing her down the stairs after an argument at his beachside home on the resort island of Phuket. The woman had been reported missing by Phuket police in late 2009.

## Pakistani Taliban says it killed Chinese woman

**DERA ISMAIL KHAN, Pakistan** (AP)—A spokesman for the Pakistani Taliban has claimed responsibility for killing a Chinese woman in the northwestern city of Peshawar. Taliban spokesman Mohammad Afridi said Thursday the woman was targeted to avenge what he said were atrocities carried out by Chinese security forces in the heavily Muslim northwestern region of Xinjiang. Peshawar police

chief Imtiaz Altaf says that militants may been behind the Tuesday shooting, but that no conclusions had been reached yet.

## New Zealand's quake-hit cathedral to be demolished

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—Anglican church officials in New Zealand say an iconic cathedral in downtown Christchurch must be demolished because earthquakes damaged it beyond repair. ChristChurch Cathedral is the city's best-known building, but its climbable spire collapsed in the February 2011 earthquake that killed 185 people and destroyed many other downtown buildings. Officials had thought part of the building could be saved, but they said Friday that recent aftershocks caused even more damage. Bishop Victoria Matthews tells The Associated Press the new cathedral will have a different design and cost an estimated 50 million New Zealand dollars (\$42 million). She says up to 10 feet (3 meters) of the existing cathedral's base will be kept, possibly for use as a prayer garden.

## 2 more US troops killed by Afghan partners

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Two U.S. troops were gunned down by two Afghan soldiers and an accomplice Thursday, the latest of six American service members killed by their Afghan partners since the burning of Muslim holy books at a U.S. base last week sent anti-Americanism soaring in a nation that has long distrusted foreigners.

The killings come at a time when international troops have stepped up training and mentoring of Afghan soldiers, police and government workers so the Afghans can take the lead and the foreign forces go home. Success of the partnership, the focus of the U.S.-led coalition's exit strategy, is threatened by a rising number of Afghan police and soldiers—or militants disguised in their uniforms—who are turning their guns on their foreign allies.

The latest victims were killed on a joint U.S.-Afghan base in Zhari district of southern Kandahar province by two Afghan soldiers and Afghan civilian literacy instructor who fired from a sentry tower, according to U.S. and Afghan officials. NATO forces shot and killed two of the assailants, apparently the soldiers, said Pentagon press secretary George Little.

On Feb. 25, two U.S. military advisers were found dead with shots to the back of the head inside the Afghan Interior Ministry in Kabul. Two U.S. troops were killed Feb. 23 by an Afghan soldier during an anti-Western protest over the Quran burning.

The U.S. apologized for the burning, saying the Islamic texts were mistakenly sent to a garbage burn pit Feb. 20 at Bagram Air Field, north of Kabul. But the incident raised what had been simmering animosity toward outsiders to a full boil. Deadly protests raged around the nation for six days—the most visible example of a deep-seated resentment bred by what Afghans view is a general lack of respect for their culture and religion.

Afghan policeman Khalid Khiri turns his head now and spits when he sees a U.S. military convoy roll by.

The 25-year-old policeman says it was fine to fight alongside the Americans. But after the Muslim holy books were burned at a U.S. base, he says he detests them.

"If they're going to burn the Quran, we don't want them here," he said this week on a road just south of Kabul. "They will never be forgiven for betraying the holy book."

Afghans have staged demonstrations in the past over NATO airstrikes that have inadvertently killed civilians, deadly traffic accidents involving U.S. military vehicles and night raids that Afghans say violate their privacy, disrespect women and lead to the detention of innocents. But desecration of the Muslim holy book struck at the heart of the Afghan people and their religion.

Thousands unleashed their anger in the largest display of anti-Americanism so far in a war that has claimed the lives of at least 1,779 members of the U.S. military, according to an Associated Press count. The demonstrations, which left more than 30 people dead, also were a venue for war-weary Afghans to express their frustration that tens of thousands of international troops and billions of dollars in foreign aid have not brought them peace or major improvements to their daily lives. Hundreds of Western advisers were told not to report to government ministries and a few are just starting to trickle back.

"This is the most emotive incident that has happened so far. It's been really at a peak," said Martine van Bijlert, co-director of the Afghanistan Analysts Network in Kabul.

## World

## Syrian rebels withdraw from enclave after siege

**BEIRUT** (AP)—After a punishing, monthlong military siege, Syrian rebels made what they called a "tactical retreat" Thursday from a key district in Homs, saying they were running low on weapons and the humanitarian conditions were unbearable.

Within hours of the rebels' withdrawal, President Bashar Assad's regime granted permission for the International Committee of the Red Cross to enter the neighborhood of Baba Amr, which had become a symbol of the resistance.

Human rights workers have been appealing for access for weeks to deliver food, water and medicine, and to help evacuate the wounded from an area that has been sealed off and attacked by the government since early February.

The Red Cross and the Syrian Arab Red Crescent received a "green light" from the Syrian authorities to enter Baba Amr on Friday "to bring in much-needed assistance including food and medical aid, and to carry out evacuation operations," ICRC spokesman Hicham Hassan told The Associated Press in Geneva.

Also Thursday, Syria's main opposition group, the Syrian National Council, formed a military bureau to help organize the armed resistance and funnel weapons to

rebels—a sign of how deeply militarized the conflict has become over the past year.

The uprising began in March 2011 with mostly peaceful protests, but a fierce government crackdown has led many army defectors and others to take up arms and fight back, with more than 7,500 estimated killed. The siege of Baba Amr has been among the deadliest assaults as Syrian forces bombarded the district with shells and snipers fired from rooftops.

Late Thursday, a Syrian official said the army had entered and taken control of the area.

The Local Coordination Committees said there were 45 deaths recorded in Syria Thursday, 24 of them in Homs.

Hundreds of people were killed and an unknown number wounded in Baba Amr; bloodied victims were forced to seek help in makeshift clinics with dwindling supplies amid a frigid winter.

"Assad's army has destroyed most of the homes in the neighborhood," said a statement posted online by the Baba Amr rebels' brigade about the retreat. They said the decision was based on "worsening humanitarian conditions, lack of food and medicine and water, electricity and communication cuts as well as shortages in weapons."

"We will return, God willing," the statement said.

The retreat came one day after a Syrian official said the government was planning a major offensive to "cleanse" Baba Amr once and for all, and activists reported troops massing outside the neighborhood.

Two French journalists, Edith Bouvier and William Daniels, have escaped to Lebanon after being trapped in Baba Amr, French President Nicolas Sarkozy said late Thursday.

"I had (Bouvier) on the phone. She is with her colleague, outside Syria," Sarkozy said during an impromptu press briefing during an EU summit.

## 7 American pro-democracy workers fly out of Egypt

CAIRO (AP)—Seven Americans on trial over charges their pro-democracy groups fomented unrest flew out of Egypt Thursday after the U.S. posted nearly \$5 million in bail for them and nine others who managed to leave before a travel ban was imposed.

The departure of the seven eased a deep diplomatic crisis between the U.S. and Egypt that had been building for two months, following a crackdown on pro-democracy and human rights groups by the Egyptian government.

Though the Americans were safely on their way home, Washington indicated that its anger over the affair has not abated.

State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland expressed relief that the Americans were free, but she pointedly noted that no decision has been made about U.S. aid to Egypt.

As the crisis unfolded over the past two months, furious officials, including Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, warned the \$1.3 billion in military aid and \$250 million in economic assistance slated for Egypt this year was in jeopardy. Nuland pointed out Thursday that the court case against the pro-democracy groups is not over.

The 16 Americans facing charges are not expected to return to Egypt, but their trial has not been called off. After the first session Sunday, it was adjourned until April, and that ruling still stands.

A convoy of white vans carrying the symbol of the U.S. Embassy arrived at Cairo airport Thursday afternoon. carrying the seven, accompanied by embassy officials. Egypt's state news agency MENA said the Americans were "happily" taking group photos at the airport, along with eight other foreigners who were also allowed to leave the country.

One of the seven flying out of Egypt on a special plane to Cyprus was Sam Lahood, son of U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray Lahood. He was the head of the International Republican Institute office in Cairo, a well established prodemocracy group.

The IRI called their release "a positive development" and said it was "hopeful that the charges against its expatriate and local Egyptian staff will be dismissed." The IRI statement also expressed concern about the future of efforts toward establishing democracy in Egypt in the wake of the affair.

Ray Lahood welcomed the development. "I'm pleased the court has lifted the travel ban and am looking forward to my son's arrival in the U.S.," he said in a statement. "I'd like to thank everyone for their thoughts and prayers during this time."

U.S. Sen. John McCain and other senators said that the crisis "may have tested" U.S.-Egypt ties, but "the strength of our relationship prevailed."

Egypt and the United States have been close allies since the late 1970s, soon after the Egyptians abandoned decades of partnership with the Soviet Union and signed a peace treaty with Israel, the first Arab nation to do so. Informally, U.S. aid to Egypt is contingent on Cairo keeping the peace with Israel.

The raids on the pro-democracy groups and charges against them dovetailed with frequent declarations by the ruling generals, blaming continuing unrest on unnamed "foreign hands." Local activists ridiculed those statements, charging that the military rulers were perpetuating the harsh, repressive tactics of the overthrown regime of President Hosni Mubarak and demanding that the generals hand over power to a civilian government.



A graffiti depicting a revolutionary flag and a slogan that reads "Go Out" is seen on the outskirts of Idlib, north Syria, Thursday, March 1, 2012.

## Greece hostage-taker surrenders to police

KOMOTINI, Greece (AP)—A former plastics factory employee who took two hostages in this northern Greek city surrendered after nearly 12 hours early Friday, police said. He had previously shot and wounded three people.

Police say the two hostages were unharmed and the hostage-taker was taken into custody without incident in Komotini, about 800 kilometers (500 miles) northeast of Athens.

The man, identified by his former employer as 52-year-old Dimitrios Manikas, had been fired from the plastics factory six months ago.

Manikas burst into the site Thursday afternoon with a shot-gun, firing at the chairman of the company and a Bulgarian employee, who were hospitalized with gunshot wounds not considered to be life threatening. A police officer also was shot and injured in the hand.

Police started negotiating with Manikas about 3 hours after he burst into the factory. At some point, according to police, the gunman demanded his an-

tidepressant medication, which was eventually delivered. From that point on, police say negotiations progressed rapidly and Manikas surrendered by throwing his gun out into the open and then walking out.

Employees at the company said that about 40 of the company's 85 employees were at the factory, which makes trash bins and other plastic products, when the gunman burst in at 1 p.m.

"The gunman had worked as an office employee at our factory in Komotini, between July 20, 2000 and Aug. 31, 2011, when he was dismissed, after displaying an unstable, inappropriate, and delinquent behavior over a long period of time in the workplace," the plastics company, the Athens-based Helesi Corp., said in a statement.

The company said its chairman Athanasios Adrianopoulos, 51, was shot in his office and wounded in the neck, arms and elsewhere, and taken out of the building by employees, who intervened to try to stop the gunman. Employee Emil Ilen Marinov, 30, a Bulgarian na-

tional, was wounded in the legs. It identified the two hostages as company drivers Theofanis Diggiaris, 51, and Dimitrios Gritzelis, 64.

Police said the gunman had demanded payment of euro31,000 (\$41,250) in money he said he was owed by the company. The company denies it owes Manikas any back pay.

Unemployment has risen rapidly since the start of Greece's financial crisis—roughly doubling to nearly 21 percent following more than two years of austerity measures. The jobless rate is highest in the northern Macedonia and Thrace regions, at nearly 24 percent. The work force at the Helesi factory has been reduced from 130 to 85 over the past two years.

Pantelis Magalios, head of a labor center in Komotini, told the AP that the gunman had run out of money.

"He had been employed at the plant for several years ... They had promised to rehire him," Magalios said. "His colleagues told me that he had not eaten anything in four days."

## **SEC** WORLD BRIEFS

## Venezuela's Chavez on state TV: 'I am doing well'

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez made his first live communication with his country's news media in nearly a week Thursday, saying he was in good shape and recovering quickly from tumor surgery in Cuba. In a five-minute phone conversation broadcast on state television, Chavez said he is keeping active, eating well and even working just days after the operation to remove a possibly cancerous growth. "I am doing well. Since the day before yesterday I am walking, roaming the hallways. I am on a good diet," Chavez said from Havana. "Right now I'm preparing for the midday walk and later some pumpkin soup ... This morning a nice yogurt.

## Guatemala judge denies ex-dictator's amnesty claim

GUATEMALA CITY (AP)—A former U.S.-backed dictator who presided over one of the bloodiest periods of Guatemala's civil war has no amnesty from charges he ordered the murder, torture and displacement of thousands of Mayan Indians, a judge ruled Thursday. The decision to strip ex-Gen. Efrain Rios Montt of the pardon

granted by his successor more than a quarter-century ago will be appealed to Guatemala's highest court, his defense said. That means any trial of the 85-year-old former strongman could be months or years away. Nonetheless, human rights advocates said, Judge Miguel Angel Galvez's decision is an important symbolic victory for the victims of one of the most horrific of the conflicts that devastated Central America during the last decades of the Cold War.

## Polls: Mexico's presidential race tightens

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexico's former ruling party has lost momentum in its campaign to win back the presidency, two new polls indicated Thursday, although they differed over how much the race has tightened. The candidate of the Institutional Revolutionary Party, Enrique Pena Nieto, has long been seen as the inevitable winner of the July 1 election, leading potential rivals by more than 20 percentage points in many polls. But the 45-year-old former governor of the State of Mexico has made several verbal gaffes on the campaign trail, and senior figures in his party have been hit by a series of allegations of financial wrongdoing and ties to organized crime in recent weeks.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE SATURDAY - SUNDAY, MARCH 3-4, 2012 17

## Young Style

ASHINGTON (AP)—Early diagnosis is considered key for autism, but minority children tend to be diagnosed later than white children. Some new work is beginning to try to uncover why—and to raise awareness of the warning signs so more parents know they can seek help even for a toddler.

"The biggest thing I want parents to know is we can do something about it to help your child," says Dr. Rebecca Landa, autism director at Baltimore's Kennedy Krieger Institute, who is exploring the barriers that different populations face in getting that help.

Her preliminary research suggests even when diagnosed in toddlerhood, minority youngsters have more severe developmental delays than their white counterparts. She says cultural differences in how parents view developmental milestones, and how they interact with doctors, may play a role.

Consider: Tots tend to point before they talk, but pointing is rude in some cultures and may not be missed by a new parent, Landa says. Or maybe mom's worried that her son isn't talking yet but the family matriarch, her grandmother, says don't worry—Cousin Harry spoke late, too, and he's fine. Or maybe the pediatrician dismissed the parents' concern, and they were taught not to question doctors.

It's possible to detect autism as early as 14 months of age, and the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that youngsters be screened for it starting at 18 months. While there's no cure, behavioral and other therapies are thought to work best when started very young.

Yet on average, U.S. children aren't diagnosed until they're about 4 1/2 years old, according to government statistics.

And troubling studies show that white kids may be diagnosed with autism as much as a year and a half earlier than black and other minority children, says University of Pennsylvania autism expert David Mandell, who led much of that work. Socioeconomics can play a role, if minority families have less access to health care or less education.

But Mandell says the full story is more complex. One of his own studies, for example, found that black children with autism were more likely than whites to get the wrong diagnosis during their first visit with a specialist.

At Kennedy Krieger, Landa leads a well-known toddler treatment pro-

# Autism not diagnosed as early in minority children



This April 24, 2011 handout photo provided by the Lemon family shows Matthew Lemon, center, accompanied by his brother Joshua and sister Victoria in Randallstown, Md. Early diagnosis is considered crucial for autism, but studies show minority children are diagnosed later than white children. Some new work is beginning to finally uncover why \_ and to raise awareness of the warning signs that can be evident even in the toddler years. Matthew was diagnosed with autism at age 2, and his mother Marlo Lemon says he was lucky to have begun treatment for developmental delays even sooner. Early diagnosis is considered key for treating autism, but research suggests minority children tend to be diagnosed later and may have more severe symptoms than their white counterparts.

gram and decided to look more closely at those youngsters to begin examining the racial and ethnic disparity. She found something startling: Even when autism was detected early, minority children had more severe symptoms than their white counterparts.

Asian or Hispanic. But the enrolled families all were middle class, Landa said, meaning socioeconomics couldn't explain the difference.

One of the study's participants, Marlo Lemon, ignored family and friends who told her not to worry that her son Matthew, then 14 months, wasn't babbling. Boys are slower to talk than girls, they said.

"I just knew something was wrong," recalls Lemon, of Randallstown, Md.

Her pediatrician listened and knew to send the family to a government "early intervention" program that, like in most states, provides free testing and treatment for young children's developmental delays. Matthew was enrolled in developmental therapy by age 18 months, and was formally diagnosed with autism when he turned 2 and Lemon enrolled him in Kennedy Krieger's toddler program as well. In many of his therapy classes, Lemon says, Matthew was the only African-American.

Now 7, Matthew still doesn't speak but Lemon says he is making huge strides, learning letters by tracing them in shaving cream to tap his sensory side, for example, and using a computer-like tablet that "speaks" when he pushes the right buttons. But Lemon quit working full-time so she could shuttle Matthew from therapy to therapy every day.

"I want other minority families to get involved early, be relentless," says Lemon, who now works part-time counseling families about how to find services early.

For a campaign called "Why wait and see?" Landa is developing videos that show typical and atypical behaviors and plans to ask Maryland pediatricians to show them to parents. Among early warning signs:

- Not responding to their name by 12 months, or pointing to show interest by 14 months.
- Avoiding eye contact, wanting to play alone, not smiling when smiled at.
- Saying few words. Landa says between 18 and 26 months, kids should make short phrases like "my shoe" or "where's mommy," and should be adding to their vocabulary weekly.
- Not following simple multi-step commands
- Not playing pretend.
- Behavioral problems such as flapping their hands or spinning in circles.

## 4-year-old model now an actor, too

Iohnson

By FRANK LOVECE

MELVILLE, N.Y.—Blake Andrew

Johnson started as a model for such clients as American Eagle Outfitters, Toys R Us and The Children's Place, and on the covers of two coming Harlequin novels, but what he really wants to do is act. He gets his chance in a recurring role beginning on NBC's musicaldrama "Smash."

Blake Andrew Johnson is all of 4 years old.

Blake was cast last summer for the recurring role of Artie Swift, son of actor Michael Swift (Will Chase), who is being considered for the part of Joe DiMaggio in "Marilyn," the series' Marilyn Monroe musical.

Does he know who Marilyn Monroe was? "Yeah. She's an actor," he

says over the phone, just after day care, while mom Corene Nelson, an engineer at CA Technologies in Islandia, N.Y., listens in.

Does he know who Joe DiMaggio was? He thinks about it. "Mommy!" he answers enthusiastically.

> OK, so he still needs some coaching in baseball history. But he does enjoy playing the sport, as well as other things, he says. "I play video games. I like Legos. A long time ago, I made an Eiffel Tower with them."

He says he bonded with Chase, who starred as Rob in the 2006 Broadway musical "High Fidelity," by playing with toy trains with him for an hour before they shot their first scene.

So what does he think of his TV dad? "He's good."

Spoken like a true thespian.

By one measure of language development, the minority patients lagged four months behind the white autistic kids, Landa reported in the Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders.

It was a small study, with 84 participants, just 19 of whom were black,

vation exist side by side."

UNICEF said more than one-third of children in urban areas don't ever get birth certificates, which means they are invisible to authorities and can't get into social programs. This rises to half of all children in parts of Africa and Asia, two of the world's regions seeing the fastest migration from rural to urban areas

More than half of the world's population lives in cities and towns, including a billion children. By 2050, two-thirds of the world's people are expected to

don't go to school and instead are forced to work to help their families, often in dangerous jobs. Tens of millions of children live or work on the streets and "the number is rising with global population growth, migration and increasing urbanization," the report said.

Children are also vulnerable to people traffickers. UNICEF said nearly 2.5 million people are in forced labor as a result of trafficking, and a quarter to half of them are children.

Nearly 8 million children died in 2010 before reaching the age of 5, about a third of them from hunger, the agency said. The rest died of pneumonia, diarrhea or birth complications.

In urban areas poor sanitation and overcrowding drive up child mortality, UNICEF said.

"When we think of poverty, the image that traditionally comes to mind is that of a child in a rural village," UNI-CEF director Anthony Lake said in a statement. "But today, an increasing number of children living in slums and shantytowns are among the most disadvantaged and vulnerable in the world, deprived of the most basic services and denied the right to thrive."

## UNICEF: Millions of kids live in urban squalor

ASSOCIATED PRESS

By OLGA R. RODRIGUEZ

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Millions of children are growing up in squalid urban areas and denied basic services despite living close to them, the United Nations Children's Fund said Tuesday.

UNICEF said children living in slums and shantytowns often lack water, electricity and health care and it urged policy makers to ensure urban planning meets the needs of children.

The agency said it is common for statistics to show that, on average, children growing up in cities are better off than those in rural areas, which often leads to missing the plight of poor, urban children.

"This conceals the fact that the greatest inequities are found within towns and cities," it said. "In most urban areas, great opportunity and great deprilive in urban areas, UNICEF said.

Many poor children in urban areas





BO PEEP SHOW! Not to worry — Little Bo Peep's lost sheep have returned. Coloring code: 1—Red. 2—Lt. blue. 3—Yellow, 4—Dk. green. 5—Flesh tones. 6—Lt. green. 7—Purple. 8—Orange.

SPELLBINDER	
SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words:	
PALOMINO	
THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters.	
Try to score at least 50 points.  'cool 'ujew :aucoows aktiesod	

#### by Samantha Weaver

- It was 20th-century American director, screenwriter, playwright and novelist Ben Hecht who made the following sage observation: "Trying to determine what is going on in the world by reading newspapers is like trying to tell the time by watching the second hand of a clock."
- If you visualize an image of John Lennon, more likely than not you'll see him in your mind's eye wearing a pair of round spectacles. In July of 2007, one pair of those iconic glasses was sold at auction for a whopping \$2 million.
- There's nothing terribly surprising about the fact that an animated version of George Orwell's famed novel "Animal Farm" was produced in the United States in 1954. What made this production unusual is that the movie rights were bought by, and the film was covertly funded by, the CIA. It was thought that it would be excellent anti-Communist propaganda during the Cold War.
- If you're like 12 percent of American men who are about to get married, you'll go to a tanning bed before you make that walk down the aisle.
- You might be surprised to learn that early automobile magnate Henry Ford was a fan of soy. In the 1940s, the fabric used for the upholstery in some of his cars was made from 25 percent soy. He even owned a soy-based suit of clothing that he would sometimes wear for media events.
- The Transportation Security Administration banned cigarette lighters on carry-on luggage between 2005 and 2007. During that time, TSA screeners confiscated 22,978 lighters every day. Safe disposal of those lighters cost the taxpayers approximately \$4 million every year.

Thought for the Day: "Obstinacy is the result of the will forcing itself into the place of the intellect."—Arthur Schopenhauer

(c) 2012 King Features Synd., Inc.

## WASHINGTON MAGIC MAZE ● —: PLACES

F II E B Y V S P M J II E B C Y V T Q O L I G D W O L L O(II) B YWTRPMKIFDBRL|E|Y WUSJOOMGKINFDIIB Z S Q U A R E T N E C S M G H X W U N S O O N R I K L E H J H F D C C A E Y M R S L A T W VTSTQPNVOILSD[S] LKIIHFEFOALCOOB ZYWOVUSRHRQLWRP NMLNJIKRAPGNSHC

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally

Center	Grove	Hollow	Prairie
Corner	Hall	Meadows	Square
Crossing	Heights	Mills	Town
Forks	Hill	Park	

@ 2012 King Features Synd., Inc. All rights reserved

## GO FIGURE! by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bot tom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

21 × 20 3 16

×

16

## DIFFICULTY: \*

\* Moderate \* \* Difficult \* \* \* GO FIGURE!

## 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 9 9 © 2012 King Features Sync bate, Inc.

# **MAGIC MAZE ANSWER**



## **Alternative medicine** ends dog's torment

DEAR PAW'S CORNER: I read with interest your column about the poor dog that was tormented by allergies. Several years ago I adopted a wonderful Border Collie, "Maisie," from a couple who couldn't cope with her constant allergies. Blood tests showed she was allergic to tree pollens, weeds and grasses. It broke my heart to see her suffer, and I took her to many veterinarians. She received allergy shots for more than a year, and many times she was given prednisone, which I didn't like but hoped would help her.

One day a new veterinarian recommended a doctor of Chinese medicine nearby. I brought Maisie in and was told almost immediately, "Yes! I can help her. We need to build her immune system." Within a very short time she was 100 percent better. She lived happily until she was almost 17 years old.

I was fortunate to find a veterinarian who was open to alternative treatments. More vets should consider alternative medicine as a way to help pets.—An Animal Lover in Littleton, Colo.

DEAR ANIMAL LOVER: Thank you for your letter! I'm glad that you were able to alleviate Maisie's suf-



fering and find an effective treatment for her chronic allergies. Every pet's needs and responses to treatments are a bit different—especially when using alternative, homeopathic or holistic therapies—and it can be difficult to find the right combination of medication or therapy. I'm impressed by the amount of patience, love and diligence you showed in caring for your dog and getting her the best care possible.

Send your questions or tips to ask@ pawscorner.com, or write to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. For more pet care-related advice and information, visit www. pawscorner.com.

(c) 2012 King Features Synd., Inc.

## A teaching clock for preschoolers

o help your preschoolers learn how to tell time on a traditional clock, make a teaching clock with a pizza pan. Personalize it with photos and drawings to remind them of the activities and chores they do throughout the day.

There's no time like the present, so get started with these four easy steps:

Step 1: NUMBER from 1 to 12 around the edge of a metal pizza pan

to create a baseline clock face. Use self-sticking numbers, stickers or permanent markers.

Step 2: COL-LECT 12 large plastic milk-jug caps and number them on the top from 1 to 12. On

the backs, attach a piece of thick, self-sticking magnet (available in rolls at hardware stores).

Step 3: CUT OUT two craft foam or cardboard arrows for clock hands, making one 3 inches long and the other 4 inches long. Attach magnets to backs.

Step 4: DRAW pictures or cut out snapshots or magazine photos of what your child does in a typical day. For example: Eat breakfast, brush teeth, play outside, pick up toys, brush the dog, read a story, etc. Glue the images to small cardboard squares, attach magnets to the backs, and use interchangeably with the numbers on the clock to help your child understand what happens at different times throughout the day.

Make extra cards for activities



by Donna Erickson

your child might do weekly, such as "visit Grandma and Grandpa," "walk to story hour at the neighbor-

hood library," "attend ballet class," etc. At bedtime, kids can choose the cardboard activity square that represents a specific special activity for the following day. Store them in a small

box or basket when not in use.

Extra Tips for Use: Remove all numbered caps and replace by matching the numbers on the caps with the numbers on the pan. Use numbered caps to practice counting.

Note: Small plastic milk-jug caps may pose a choking hazard to children 4 and under.

Donna Erickson's award-winning series "Donna's Day" is airing on public television nationwide. To find more of her creative family recipes and activities, visit www.donnasday.com and link to the NEW Donna's Day Facebook fan page. Her latest book is "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families."

(c) 2012 Donna Erickson Distributed by King Features Synd. SAIPAN TRIBUNE SATURDAY - SUNDAY, MARCH 3-4, 2012 19

# Good Housekeeping

# An eye for modern living

By LISA BOONE LOS ANGELES TIMES

LOS ANGELES—Megan Schoenbachler is distracted. While giving a tour of her family's Marmol Radziner-designed house in Venice, Calif., she notices the light and the angle from the second-floor master bathroom, looking over the courtyard hot tub and toward the kitchen on the first floor.

"That would make a great shot," she suggests in a friendly tone to a Times photographer, gesturing to her husband down below in the kitchen. "Open the window, Jonathan," she says as he slices potatoes.

The photographer tries the picture. Green ferns and the rustic spa are reflected in glass. Jonathan Sela is outlined by a charcoal gray frame around the window. The house's indoor-outdoor beauty comes through perfectly.

The shot offers a hint of how Schoenbachler, herself a photographer, and Sela, a cinematographer, applied their eye during the house-building process.

Though the couple turned to a noted architectural firm to guide the design, their house is still very much their vision: indoor-outdoor, family friendly, modern but warm and inviting.

The couple were inspired to build a new house after they fell in love with architect Ron Radziner's home, seen on the Venice Art Walk years ago. After remodeling two houses in Venice—one Spanish, the other ranch—the couple knew that this time they wanted something modern for their growing family.

On a narrow, 5,000-square-foot lot near Abbot Kinney Boulevard, Schoenbachler and Sela's house has the qualities typical of Marmol Radziner's work—efficient, modern, striking in its apparent simplicity—as well as a lush landscape that brings some softness to all the clean lines.

From the beginning, the couple sought to create a sense of warmth through a connection to the environment, or as architect Leo Marmol says, "a rougher texture," much like the imperfect beauty that you see in



Jonathan Sela prepares lunch in the kitchen, back, as his 3-year-old son Indika Sela plays with a toy truck on the dining room's polished concrete floor, January 11, 2012, at their Marmol Radziner-designed Venice, California home.

nature, not to mention life.

Essentially working from the ground up, the couple began by choosing subdued colors and finishes for warmth. Siding composed of four woods from dismantled barns in Pennsylvania wraps interior walls, ceilings and the exterior. Cork flooring upstairs and walnut cabinetry soften the home's geometric forms and give the house a comfortable vibe.

"Any time that we had to make a decision about something that could be either super modern and possibly sterile, we consciously discussed how to avoid that, so we could always feel comfortable in an ultra-modern home," Schoenbachler says.

The first floor is a single continuous family area: living room, dining room and, offset by a couple of steps, the kitchen. It's minimally furnished with a few midcentury-style couches and a solid wall of cabinets to contain the clutter of books, antiques and a television. What was going to be a wine cabinet by the dining area became open shelving for kids' toys, adding a casual sensibility to the modern architecture.

Venice artist Simon Maltby designed an enormous table made from an Oregon spruce tree that fell down in a storm. He also created a repurposed wood chandelier. From the outdoors looking in, the light installation resembles "a tree hanging upside down," Schoenbachler says. The piece evolved slowly, with Maltby moving the branches around until they were just right. The couple then added an eclectic mix of light bulbs to the base. At night, the lights reflect off the house's glass walls to amazing effect.

The concrete floor is stained a warm brown and bronze, and steel stairs are softened by views of water and flora beyond. Sliding glass doors along the dining area open to a pool on one side and a courtyard on the other, the land-scape planted with the ferns, Japanese maple and flowering redbud.

"It gives the house a sense of seasons," Sela says. "We get a contrast of reds and greens."

Wooden paths lead to a spa, an outdoor shower and vegetable planters at the rear of the house—another unexpected touch.

Engrossed in his Play-Doh, Indika Sela, 3, gets up from the living room floor and walks through a sliding glass door to the courtyard. Seemingly lost in thought, he dips his toe in the narrow saltwater pool. "It's cold!" he says with surprise, before moving on to the front yard, where a sandbox and tepee await.

That's precisely what Schoenbachler and Sela had wanted for Indika and their other son, Luca, 5.

"We wanted to create indoor and

outdoor spaces where the boys could

move freely," Schoenbachler says.

As the couple collaborated with the architects and project manager Mike Patterson on all aspects of the home, natural elements remained paramount.

"They both wanted to live in the garden," Marmol says. "We felt the more we can open it up, the better."

The enclosed front yard is an oasis for the kids, with a swing set joining the tepee and sandbox, plus a soft pathway on which they can run or ride. Sela and Schoenbachler, who did the landscaping with the help of Venice, Calif., designer Art Maltby, Simon's son, planted drought-tolerant Australian natives. Repurposed materials for the space include brick used for a walkway and recycled wood in the fencing around the sandbox.

Back inside, the house's furnishings complement the building materials. Vintage pieces throughout the home add a sense of fun: flea market glass lamps, an old stereo and TV set, framed comic books and Holly Hobbie wooden plaques in the boys' bathroom. In the powder room, the couple installed hand-etched fleur-de-lis tile, a subtle stencil pattern on the walls and inexpensive tin ceiling tile. For literal warmth: radiant floor heating, a simple and efficient way to add luxury without having to decorate a thing.

LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT

The living room is featured at the Marmol Radziner-designed Venice, California home of photographer Megan Schoenbachler and director of photography Jonathan Sela, January 11, 2012. Their 3-year-old son Indika is seen playing on the heated polished concrete floor.

## Gas furnace needs annual maintenance

By SAMANTHA MAZZOTTA
KING FEATURES SYND., INC.



Q: I have a gas heater in my home that works very well, but my friend told me I

need to maintain it and get it serviced every year. One reason I chose a gas heater was that it didn't need as much maintenance as the oil-fueled heater in my old home. Do I really need to spend the money to bring in a heater repairman every year? — Gladys J., Grand Junction, Colo.

**A:** Ideally, you should have a professional check your heating system once a year to make sure everything is working properly. The reason is that, like any machinery, gas furnaces have moving parts, inlet valves and other things that can and will break down eventually. Dirt can build up in the furnace system, and moisture from various sources also can cause problems. A heating professional will be able to check systems like the blower motor and exhaust stack, electrical connections and other areas that are not safe or practical for many

homeowners to tackle themselves.

There are some maintenance tasks you can do yourself that will help keep the professional's visit cost-effective. The single most important thing you can do is change the filter every month that the furnace is in operation. This minimizes the amount of dust that enters the furnace itself and keeps it from gunking up the works and reducing heating efficiency (or shutting it down entirely). Keeping the room that the furnace is in free of clutter and dust is another way to maintain the unit.

You also can inspect parts of the

heating system yourself. Check to make sure the pilot light is burning properly and at the right height. (Your manufacturer's manual should specify this, but if it doesn't, most pilot lights burn at about an inch in height, with a bright-blue hue at the top of the flame.) You also might be able to inspect the burners, which when operating also should have clear flames with a bright blue hue. When they are off, visually check the burners for any buildup of soot or grease.

Inspect the furnace and all visible ductwork for signs of damage or corrosion twice a year. If you see any issues with the furnace, the burners or the pilot light, or if other problems occur,

such as the furnace tripping the circuit breaker, contact a heating professional right away to fix the issue.

As a final note, remember to get a written estimate from the heating professional before allowing any maintenance or repair work to take place.



**HOME TIP**: Be safe. Never store combustible materials near a furnace or heater, and

make sure the furnace area is well-ventilated.

Send your questions or tips to ask@ thisisahammer.com, or write This Is a Hammer, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

# Life & Style

# 'Housewives' actress says she was stunned when hit

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Nicollette Sheridan told jurors on Thursday that she was shocked and humiliated after being struck in the head by the creator of "Desperate Housewives" on the set of the hit ABC show.

The actress was the first witness called during her trial alleging that she was fired after a dispute with creator and executive producer Marc Cherry. She is seeking more than \$6 million in damages.

At the request of her attorney, Patrick Maloney, the actress demonstrated the blow by striking her lawyer in court. Sheridan contended it was a hard blow, although attorneys for Cherry and ABC claimed it was a light tap meant to give the actress some direction for a scene.

Sheridan told jurors that Cherry ap-

peared stunned after the hit and later apologized to her.

Wearing a navy blue suit and white blouse, Sheridan split the day testifying about the show's early years and the dispute with Cherry and its aftermath.

Her character Edie Britt was killed off in the show's fifth season, when she was earning \$175,000 an episode. By then, she also had been granted a portion of the series' profits by that point and was slated to earn \$250,000 an episode if she remained on the series through the seventh season.

She testified that although Cherry had left her character's fate in doubt at the end of seasons three and four, he never mentioned killing her off until after he hit her and was cleared by ABC executives of wrongdoing.

Cherry and ABC have denied wrongdoing and said they will present evidence that the decision to kill off Britt was made months before his argument with Sheridan and had to be approved by top executives at the network.

The scene that led to the dispute between Sheridan and Cherry was originally not meant to include the actress' character. Her role was added after several revisions and was a short scene in which Britt needled her on-screen husband about how to write a love song.

A later script called for her to strike him with a magazine.

Maloney showed jurors various versions of the script, and played a montage of some of Sheridan's highlights from the show, including her attempting to seduce men and wash-

In this July 27, 2011 file photo, actress Nicollette Sheridan poses for a portrait at during The Television Critics Association 2011 Summer Press Tour in Beverly Hills, Calif.

ing a car with her blouse unbuttoned and bra exposed.

Some jurors laughed as the scenes were played. Many had seen the show in its early seasons.

Sheridan told the panel that she wasn't similar to her character. "I think honesty is about the only thing we shared," she said.

"Desperate Housewives," a glossy prime-time comedy/soap opera with an ensemble cast including Hatcher and Longoria, made a pop-culture and ratings splash when it premiered in 2004 but has seen its audience dwindle. It is in its last season.

Cherry is expected to testify, and series stars Teri Hatcher, Eva Longoria, Marcia Cross and Felicity Huffman are listed as potential witnesses.



In this film image released by Universal Pictures, animated character Lorax, voiced by Danny Devito, center, stands with stands with the Bar-ba-loots, Swomee-Swans and Humming-Fish in a scene from "Dr. Seuss' The Lorax."

## Box office preview: Seuss gets green with 'Lorax'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Dr. Seuss" The Lorax," the beloved author's nod to the environment, should grow a leading \$45 million-plus at the domestic box office this weekend as the animated Universal release sprouts on 3,728 screens, including 269 IMAX locations.

Featuring the voices of Danny DeVito, Ed Helms, Zac Efron and Taylor Swift, the PG-rated family film will follow in the footsteps of 2000's "Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas," which opened with \$55.1 million, 2003's "Dr. Seuss' "The Cat in the Hat," which had a \$38.3 million debut, and 2008's "Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!," with a \$45 million opening weekend. "The Lorax" opens on the birthday of Dr. Seuss, who would have turned 108 this year.

Warner Bros.' debuts its R-rated teen comedy "Project X" from producer Todd Phillips, director of the two "Hangover" films. A mid- to high-teens gross is likely for this mid- to high-teens gross-out comedy about a bunch of high-school kids who throw a massive birthday party in order to enhance their social status.

Relativity Media's "Act of Valor," starring active-duty U.S. Navy SEALs, raided last weekend's box office with a better-than-expected \$24.7 million. The R-rated action film has been winning the midweek box office battle and should have a solid second-weekend gross in the \$15 million range, with total domestic revenue near \$50 million by Sunday night.

"Tyler Perry's Good Deeds" from Lionsgate will continue to benefit from Perry's loyal fan base and should earn around \$10 million in its second weekend of release and approach \$30 million by the end of the weekend.

Warner Bros.' "Journey 2: The Mysterious Island," starring Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, has been the family film of choice for the past three weeks and enters its fourth weekend with nearly \$80 million in 3-D-powered bucks. But it may run into some resistance for a topfive slot in sub \$10 million territory from Denzel Washington in Universal's R-rated "Safe House," which should cross the \$100 million mark by Sunday night.

## 'Hunger Games' could open at \$10M, surveys suggest

LOS ANGELES—"The Hunger Games" is poised to slaughter the box office competition with an opening that could surpass \$100 million.

On Thursday, Lionsgate's adaptation of the best-selling book came onto "tracking," the survey data used by Hollywood executives to measure pre-release interest, and the numbers are massive. People who have seen the numbers but were not authorized to discuss them publicly said the film, which debuts March 23, could have a domestic opening weekend of close to, and possibly more than, \$100 million.

More consumers rate "The Hunger Games" as their first choice film to see than any movie coming out in the next get the highest "first choice" ratings are ones closest to their release dates.

Currently, the three biggest companies that provide tracking data are estimating that "Hunger Games" will open to between \$70 million and \$90 million.

However, Lionsgate still has to roll out most of its marketing for "Hunger Games," which stars Jennifer Lawrence. If ads on TV, print and the Internet along with billboards and publicity help to increase interest in the film, it could end up opening to more than \$100 million, several people who saw the data said.

While "Hunger Games" is being compared to "Twilight" by many peo-

four weeks. Typically, the movies that ple, because both are based on book series that are tremendously popular with teenagers, Lionsgate's upcoming film has one key advantage: While the four "Twilight" films have generated their nearly \$1.1 billion in domestic box office primarily from women, surveys show that men are interested in "The Hunger Games" as well.

Females, particularly those younger than 25, are the most excited for "Hunger Games," but more men over and under 25 also rate the film as their top choice than any other film opening in the next four weeks.

Already, "The Hunger Games" has broken the record for most first-day sales from online ticketing service Fandango.

## Conservative blogger Breitbart dies in LA

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Andrew Breitbart used the Internet relentlessly to ignite political scandal and expose what he saw as media bias, even if he sometimes had to edit the facts to do it.

The fiery online publisher and blogger who collapsed and died Thursday at 43 relished public combat with liberals—a YouTube clip last month shows him bellowing at Occupy Wall Street protesters, "Stop raping people, you freaks!" Yet the conservatives and tea party activists

who loved him said he exposed corrupt leaders and what he called the hopelessly liberal "old media guard."

The converted Hollywood lefty who partied his way through Tulane University was also a soft-spoken father of four. The conservative warrior chose to live on enemy turf, Brentwood, the tony Los Angeles enclave favored by the Hollywood elite he so often mocked.

Breitbart used his

tions she was a racist.

website to promote a hidden-camera video with actors posing as customers that led the downfall of the liberal zations for Reform Now, or ACORN. He posted explicit photos of former Rep. Anthony Weiner that caused the New York congressman to resign in a sexting scandal, and an edited video that caused former U.S. Agriculture Department official Shirley Sherrod

In a new media age, Breitbart argued that anyone with a laptop could reshape public discourse. He used his skills at sites like Big Journalism and Big Government and his takedown of Weiner established him as a conservative media star.

to resign over since-reversed percep-

He was filled with contradictions. He was a self-avowed enemy of the mainstream media, yet he subscribed to The Associated Press and admitted loving the venerable news agency's photos that came from afar. "It's a love-hate relationship," he confided at a quiet moment. He pleaded with conservatives to drive relentlessly forward—walk into the line of fire, he would say—yet the final sentence from his prolific and often caustic voice on Twitter was, ironically, an apology for calling a follower a "putz," just in case he misunderstood a message to him.

partner and lifelong His business

friend, Larry Solov, once said Breitbart had two speeds: lighthearted jokester and fiery culture warrior. "They flip back and forth," Solov said. "And there is not that much in between."

Breitbart died after collapsing shortly after midnight during a walk near his home. He was rushed to the emergency room at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center.

Breitbart suffered heart problems a year earlier, but his

father-in-law, actor Orson Bean, said he could not pinpoint what happened. Larry Dietz, watch commander at the Association of Community Organi- Los Angeles County coroner's office, said an autopsy was likely.

"It's devastating," Bean told the AP. Breitbart leaves behind his showcase, a family of websites that waged daily war with what he considered liberal bias in the media, on college campuses and in the entertainment industry. Joel Pollak, an editor, said Breitbart was planning to launch a retooled version, and those plans would go forward.

"The core of what Andrew did was bring new citizen journalists into the new media," Pollak said. It "was, and still is, what we do."

It wasn't immediately clear who would take over the company, which once ran out of Breitbart's basement and now employs about a dozen people.



In a Wednesday, Oct. 21, 2009 file photo, Andrew Breitbart attends a news conference, at the National Press Club in Washington.

## Funeral home denies role in Houston casket photo

owner of the Newark, N.J., funeral home that handled services for Whitney Houston says the home had nothing to do with a photograph that surfaced showing the singer's body in an open casket.

But Carolyn Whigham of

two pastors say they do know in this shameful betrayal." She who took the photo that ran in the National Enquirer. They just aren't identifying the person and say that's up to the Houston family.

Whigham told The Star-Ledger of Newark Thursday Whigham Funeral Home and her funeral home "had no role

was responding to what she says are claims that either she or her employees were involved.

The 48-year-old Houston died Feb. 11 in California. Whigham says she determined the photo was taken Feb. 17, a day before the funeral.

## Streep gives \$10K to Viola Davis' RI student fund



In this Nov. 18, 2008 photo, Meryl Streep, left, and Viola Davis, cast members in "Doubt," pose together at the premiere of the film at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in Beverly Hills, Calif.

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)— Actress Meryl Streep has donated \$10,000 to a Rhode Island scholarship fund in honor of fellow Oscar nominee Viola Davis.

Davis established the fund with her sister in 1988.

Upward Bound Director Mariam Boyajian said Thursday that the check for the Upward Bound Scholarship Endowment Fund arrived Monday. Boyajian says Streep's donation is the largest single award the fund has received.

The Segue Institute for Learning in Central Falls also received \$10,000 from Streep on Monday in Davis' honor. Davis grew up in Central Falls.

Streep won an Oscar for best actress on Sunday for her portrayal of Margaret Thatcher in "The Iron Lady." Davis was nominated for her role in "The Help."

Boyajian says Davis and her sister, Deloris Grant, graduated from the Upward Bound program.

## 'American Idol' announces top 13 finalists

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The top 13 singers have been selected on "American Idol."

Hollie Cavanaugh, Colton Dixon, Heejun Han, Jermaine Jones, Skylar Laine, Joshua Ledet, Shannon Magrane, Phillip Phillips, Jessica Sanchez and Elise Testone were revealed

Thursday as the singers with the most viewer votes after Tuesday and Wednesday's performances.

Once the viewer-selected finalists were revealed, the show's judges picked five of the 15 remaining semifinalists to deliver a last-chance tune. The judges chose Erika Van Pelt, Jeremy Rosado and Deandre Brackensick as their "wild card" selections.

The contestants will return to the stage next Wednesday.

The male singers will perform the music of Stevie Wonder, while the female finalists will pay tribute to the late Whitney Houston.

## Bristol Palin to star in Lifetime reality series

NEW YORK (AP)—Bristol Palin's home life in Alaska is the subject of a reality series starring the daughter of former vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin.

Lifetime says it will air 10 episodes of "Bristol Palin: Life's a Tripp" later this year. The series will explore the pressures of raising her toddler son, Tripp, as she maintains her close relationship with the larger Palin clan, the network said.

The former first daughter of Alaska, Palin became one of the nation's most prominent single mothers after the 2008 birth of Tripp. Last summer, a reality series built around her was announced by the Bio Channel, but never aired.

In 2010, Palin was a competitor on ABC's "Dancing With the Stars." Last June she published a best-selling memoir.



In this April 30, 2011 photo, Bristol Palin arrives for the White House Correspondents Dinner in Washington.

## **ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS**

## **Autopsy: Singer Davy Jones died of heart**

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla.

(AP)—An autopsy confirms that Davy Jones, star of 1960s band **NEW YORK** (AP)—Three The Monkees, died of a heart at- of Christopher Hitchens' most tack. The medical examiner's of- contentious books are coming fice in Martin County, Fla., says authorities completed their examination Thursday morning, a day after Jones was rushed to the hospital. Toxicology tests could take another six or eight weeks, but there's no sign anything else is to blame for the 66-year-old heartthrob's death. Jones rocketed to stardom in the 1960s as a member of The Monkees, a made-for-TV rock band patterned after the Beatles. Though their television show lasted just two years and the group ultimately broke up, they have endured with such chart-topping hits as "I'm a Believer" and "Daydream Believer." A spokeswoman for

Jones says funeral arrangements have not yet been made.

## 3 books by Hitchens to be reissued in April

back into print, and debuting in digital form. Twelve, an imprint of the Hachette Book Group, announced Thursday that books on three of Hitchens' favorite enemies-Bill Clinton, Henry Kissinger and Mother Theresa—will be reissued on paper and as ebooks on April 10. Hitchens, the author and polemicist who died in December after an 18-month battle with cancer, would have turned 63 on April 13. The Hitchens books are "The Missionary Position: Mother Theresa in Theory and Practice," "No One Left to Lie to: The Triangulations of William Jefferson Clinton," and "The Trial of Henry Kissinger."

## **Justin Long signs up for Broadway debut**

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The first new student has been revealed for the Broadway play "Seminar"—Justin Long. Producers announced Thursday that Long will make his Broadway debut alongside Jeff Goldblum on April 3 for eight weeks as a new cast takes over at The Golden Theatre. The original cast is Alan Rickman, Lily Rabe, Hamish Linklater, Jerry O'Connell and Hettienne Park. They will play their final performance April 1. Other replacements will be revealed later. In Theresa Rebeck's play about the soul-torturing world of authors, four budding writers are taught about life by a crass, pugnacious novelistturned-tutor. Long will take over Linklater's part. Long's films include "The Break Up" and "Dodgeball." On TV, he

was in "Ed" and "New Girl." He's also known for Apple's "Get a Mac" ads.

## 'Hunger Games' author praises upcoming film

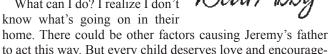
**NEW YORK** (AP)—"The Hunger Games" author Suzanne Collins has given a big thumbs up to the upcoming film version of her million-selling dystopian novel. In a message that appeared Thursday on the Facebook page of "The Hunger Games," Collins wrote that she was "really happy" with the movie. She praised director Gary Ross for remaining faithful to the book while adding a "rich and powerful vision" of the brutal society Collins imagined in print. "And, my God, the actors," Collins added. She singled out the "extraordinary" Jennifer Lawrence, who stars as the young heroine, Katniss. The highly anticipated movie will be released March 23.

## Boy needs supportive refuge from father's hurtful words

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN

**DEAR ABBY:** My 10-year-old son has a school friend, "Jeremy," who seems like a sweet, smart kid. I have seen Jeremy's dad interact with him both in and out of school. The man talks down to him and speaks harshly. This sweet boy appears to be verbally beaten down, and it makes my heart ache.

What can I do? I realize I don't know what's going on in their



to act this way. But every child deserves love and encouragement. Any advice you can give would be appreciated.

#### ADVOCATE FOR KINDNESS IN KENTUCKY

DEAR ADVOCATE: Make Jeremy welcome in your home as often as you can, praise him when the opportunity arises and give him a willing ear if he needs to talk. Whatever "factors" are causing his father to treat him this way, they are no excuse for verbal abuse. Your kindness to that boy won't fix his problems at home, but it WILL be remembered all the days of his life. Your hospitality may be the only exposure Jeremy has to a normal, functional family.

**DEAR ABBY:** I got into a fight with my best friend. I'm 12, and she's 13. We could have solved our own problems, but she got her parents involved. They started saying stuff on Facebook about me and my parents. I forgave her, but I don't want to forgive her parents. Abby, what would you do?

CAN'T FORGIVE

DEAR CAN'T FORGIVE: Your friend's parents appear to be immature and overly involved in their daughter's life. Most tweenage tiffs are resolved by the individuals having the argument. What her parents did was wrong.

If they haven't posted an apology on Facebook, they should. And if they don't, my advice is to keep your distance from ALL of them, because regardless of whether you have forgiven your friend, this could happen again.

**DEAR ABBY:** A group of about a dozen friends are planning a Caribbean cruise. My boyfriend, "Isaac," and I have been invited to join them. I love to travel. I don't get to go on trips very often and have never been on a cruise or to the Caribbean, so I'm excited.

Isaac, on the other hand, doesn't care much for travel and doesn't enjoy the ocean. He also doesn't like my friend or her husband. They are the ones who are coordinating the trip and who invited us.

Isaac rarely socializes with anyone who isn't in his circle of friends. He doesn't want to go and thinks I shouldn't go, either. Isn't it unfair of him to tell me I can't go? Would it be wrong of me to go without him? He promises that if I don't go, the two of us will go together next year. (I don't believe him.)

## LANDLOCKED IN ARIZONA

DEAR LANDLOCKED: If you don't believe Isaac when he tells you he'll do something, you must have good reason for it.

Yes, it is unfair of him to tell you that you can't take the cruise with your friends. It is also controlling. If you think you would have a good time without him, you should go. It's not like you'll be leaving for a month. He can manage without you for a few days. Instead of trying to discourage you, he should wish you "bon voyage"—but the odds for that aren't high, so don't expect it.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable—and most frequently requested-poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby-Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

## **Pastimes**

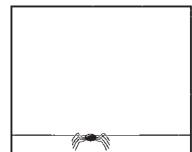
## Calvin and Hobbes



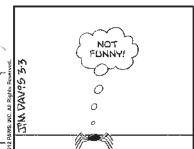




## By Bill Waterson Garfield®

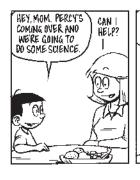






By Jim Davis

## Adam@home







benders

42 Lansing's

43 Gilligan's

locale

procrasti

nating

48 Father's

Day

gifts

49 Ninny

51 Ginor-

mous

53 Prior to

45 Angers

**47** Not



By Bryan Basset

## The Duplex







By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD		By Eugene Sheffer		
ACROSS	40 Prod	3 Sew	21 "F! —"	

CROSSWC	ORD	By Euge	ene Sheffer
ACROSS	<b>40</b> Prod	3 Sew	21 "El —"
1 U-shaped	42 Cool —	loosely	23 Literary
river bend	44 Property	4 Rhyming	collection
6 Trite	claim	tribute	<b>24</b> Time
12 Fleet	46 Tittle	5 Certain	of your
<b>13</b> Full	50 Weather	pet	life?
chromo-	map	6 Shrek,	25 Support
some set	line	e.g.	system?
14 Service at	52 Rafael	7 Yorkshire	26 Court's
an after-	Nadal's	city	daily
noon	game	8 Crime	agenda
party	54 Danes or	lab	28 Oilers'
15 Enlarged	Forlani	evidence	place
a hole	<b>55</b> Really	<b>9</b> "Look —,	<b>30</b> Pigs'
<b>16</b> Over 50	wild	Angel"	digs
percent	parties	10 Congre-	31 Sailor's
17 Emailed a	56 Bets both	gation's	assent
duplicate	ways	cry	<b>33</b> Opp. of
to	<b>57</b> Fits	11 Danson	pos.
<b>19</b> Type	snugly	and	<b>34</b> Free TV
measures	inside	Demme	ad
20 Reverber-		<b>12</b> \$ dis-	39 Sunlight
ate	DOWN	penser	problem
22 Spotted	1 Sandwich		41 Minor
24 "The	treat	of	fender

24 "The treat 2 Opening Bachelor" higher airer day? learning 27 Between Solution time: 27 mins. jobs 29 Houston acronym 32 Republicans 35 Relief 36 Jewels **37** See 38-Across 38 With 37-Across, Easter

purchase

	parameter residually statistical 3-3											
	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11
12							13					
14							15					
16					17	18				19		
			20	21				22	23			
24	25	26		27			28		29		30	31
32			33					34				
35					36					37		
		38		39		40			41			
42	43			44	45				46	47	48	49
50			51				52	53				
54							55					
56							57					

Yesterday's answer 3-3

For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955!** 99c per minute, touch tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King STUMPED? Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Nathalie Kelley, 27; Jessica Biel, 30; Julie Bowen, 42; Jackie Jovner-Kersee, 50

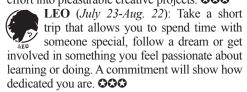
**Happy Birthday**: You will be torn between what vou want and what vou know vou should do. Consider the pros and cons and weigh the consequences before making an irreversible move. Your personal and professional partnerships may need adjusting, but the way you go about integrating your plans will make a difference to the outcome. Your numbers are 5, 13, 19, 26, 35, 38, 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Personal problems will lead to impetuous and regrettable mistakes. Stop what you are doing and rethink what you want to accomplish. Keep in mind that success is the sweetest revenge. Move forward with confidence and faith, and you will win in the end. •••

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Implement what you want with certainty. An unusual source will contribute something special that will make what you are working toward that much better. Make sure you have all of the required permits or approvals in place before you begin. OOOO

**GEMINI** (*May 21-June 20*): Finish what you start, or you will face criticism. A chance to show your skills and creativity will result in being treated with greater respect. Don't be afraid to make a last-minute change of plans. You have to do what's best for you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Your emotions will be difficult to control. Avoid making impulsive decisions while you are uncertain. Guilt must not compel you to take on responsibilities that don't belong to you. Put effort into pleasurable creative projects. •••



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take a break from the monotony and make a point to socialize or enjoy friends, family or your lover. Express your feelings and contribute innovative suggestions that will help improve your situation and enhance your relationships. 🛇 🍪 😂

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't give in to someone using force. A change at work or at home will help you get back on track. Don't limit the possibilities. It's up to you to make a positive move. Take care of your needs first. 🛇

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Make positive changes at home. The way you of a situation that has been pending. A partnerproject into a prosperous venture.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Keep your emotions out of any conversation involving money, legal or health issues. Make the changes that best suit your needs. Avoid anyone using unfair tactics to get you to do

Sudoku is a number-placing

puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with

several given numbers. The

object is to place the numbers

1 to 9 in the empty squares so

that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday

something you don't want to do.

to Saturday.

handle people will influence the outcome ship will help open a door that can turn a stagnant

> Birthday Baby: You are resourceful, attentive dictable and adventuresome. Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confifor Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

## IN ASTROLOGY COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

EUGENIA

THE LAST WORD



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Changes that someone makes will affect you emotionally. Try not to appear uncertain when strength and courage are required to turn a negative situation into a positive. Let experience and knowledge guide you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Keep things honest regarding personal matters that concern a partner, children or money. Ingenuity will help you come up with a workable solution that will enhance your chance to work alongside someone you respect.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): A humanitarian act will augment your reputation. An emotional appeal will bring good results. An unusual partnership will allow you to expand your personal and professional interests. Networking will lead to innovative suggestions with monetary potential.

and accommodating. You are adaptable, unpre-

dential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer 4 8 3 1 9 5 2 7 6 5 1 2 4 7 6 3 8 9 7 6 9 2 8 3 5 4 1 1 4 5 6 3 9 7 2 8 6 2 7 8 4 1 9 3 5 3 9 8 7 5 2 1 6 4 2 7 4 9 1 8 6 5 3 9 3 6 5 2 4 8 1 7

|8 5 1 |3 6 7 |4 |9 2 |

©2010 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Difficulty Level ★★★★

## Wanderward

ar in the puzzle — horizon-hem and CIRCLE THEIR HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below ally, vertically, diagonally, even packward, ring declaration the letters only, Do NOT CIRCLE THE WORD, The let

0	TTAW	A IN	THE	NEV	VS					5	Soluti	ion: .	12 le	tters
3	S	Α	Р	R	Е	Т	Α	Ε	Н	Т	С	G	В	Α
ĮΕ	G	(L)		C		S	R	Ε	Т	S	-1	Ν		Μ
H	N	(L)	L	D	R	D	Ε	Ν	D	Ţ	Т	ı	S	S
ד	1	(A)	S	Ε	Ε	Ν	Ε	М	R	]	Υ	Υ	Ε	Ν
F	≀ L	$\mathbb{M}$	В	Α	G	Μ	Α	Α	- [	S	S	В	R	0
Į.	E	Μ	L	Κ	Ν	- 1	Ν	Τ	U	Н	Т	В	٧	Μ
F	E	S	Α	R	В	S	S	Т	- [	Ν	С	0	- [	Μ
N	1 H	S	Ε	Т	-1	S	Α	L	Е	О	Α	L	С	0
ĮΕ	W	٧	Е	Ε	Т	Т	C	М	Α	M	Ν	\$	Е	Ç
E	0	V	Ν	Ν	S	Ε	Α	-1	S	Ţ	Р	Α	Α	Α
[6	S	Т	О	Т	Α	-1	R	-1	Т	]	-1	Р	L	Ν
1	\$	U	0	Т	L	Τ	R	S	L		-1	Ο	L	Α
N	1 W	W	O	R	Ε	Α	0	Ų	Ν	Ţ	L	Α	Ν	D
	Е	С	Α	Н	Н	S	Т	R	Α	Н	W	0	Е	Α
F	R N	Р	R	С	Α	Ν	Α	L	S	S	Ε	R	Р	S

ම් 2012 Universal Uplick - www.wanderword.com - Join us on Lacebook Canada, Canal, Capital, Charisma, Chimes, City, Commons, Deals Government, House. Image, Laws. Legislation, Lobbying, Mall, Matters. Media, Members, Ministers, National, News, Parliament, Parties, Pass, Politics, Press, Rideau, Senators, Service, Side Slip, Status, Theater, Tower, Transients, Tulips, Votes, Wheeling Yesterday's Answer: Dr. Seuss

ie NEA Trabury 12 o Le adeas sy terding deuter maky adar 6, \$155 add pat \$100 patong an inguny \$1405 add, US Line, odg Jack 11 odd, J. 2015 in deuteration to mar ut Franc U. Rev Hu Ar Jack at Hus, 1100 Okmust, sarendry Jack Hitler on Lidde OCHER-BAC Color and deuteration (Jack at Hus Trabin Studies (Jack 2015) and Studies (Jack 2015).

# HOCUS-FOCUS HENRY BOLTINOFF



CAN YOU TRUST YOUR EYES? There are at least six differences in drawing details between top and bottom panels. How quickly can you find them? Check answers with those below. Differences: ". Dench is missing. Z. Mache beg is wisning." A Am is missing. 9. Weil is allocate & Shirifall is difference.

# Wishing 🏖 Well®

L	Α	G	0	N	N	- [	Е	T	Ş	0	Υ	0	
3	4	2	3	7	3	2	8	3	6	2	8	5	
N	V	M	C	Α	R	Р	W	Ε	Н	Α	В	Т	
8	7	4	3	2	6	3	5	2	6	5	6	2	
Ε	L	- 1	Α	Τ	Е	S	Ε	Н	W	M	Α	Υ	
6	3	7	3	7	5	В	6	5	2	6	3	6	
Υ	Ε	S	-1	Α	Ρ	L	- 1	Т	F	S	N	С	
3	2	8	2	3	6	5	2	5	3	7	4	6	
W	0	0	R	Α	L	Α	0	Τ	G	R	N	Ε	
3	7	4	3	2	5	8	4	6	5	7	5	7	
Ε	Ε	G	S	T	ı	V	J	Α	0	S	N	Ε	
5	7	6	8	6	4	6	2	8	2	4	2	2	

HERE IS A PLEASANT LITTLE GAME that will give you a message every day. It's a numerical puzzle designed to spell out your fortune. Count the letters in your first name. If the number of letters is 6 or more, subtract 4. If the number is less than 6, add 3. The result is your key number. Start at the up-per left-hand corner and check one of your key numbers, left Then read the message the letters under the checked figures give you.

TREEQDHDE

© 2012 King Features Synd., Inc. All rights reserved







Υ





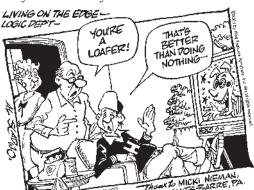






They'll Do It Every Time



























## **Super** Crossword

52 Billings or Mostel ACROSS 1 Pay hike? 7 Chore 11 Styptic 53 Neighbor of Miss. 54 "

pencil stuff 15 Predica-19 Model Kim

20 Press 21 It's a long story 22 "Inter -- " 23 Start of a

remark 26 Fluff the flour 27 Mr.

Hammarskjold 28 Composer Satie

29 Majors or Marvin 30 Layers **32** Had

kittens? 33 Postern and portcullis

36 Main squeeze 37 "--- culpa" 39 Heavenly

hunter 40 "I bet!" 41 Part 2 of remark

46 Faux -49 Fireworks reaction 50 '

Boulevard\* ('50 film) **51** They may be rolled

prop 120 Prophet 78 Pack of partridges 80 Like many

DOWN

Remsen

92 Heady quaffs 93 Respond to

an alarm? Blade' ('59 film) ('96 film) 95 Fop's neckwear

Sharp taste 60 Skater short 102 Georgia Midori

63 Kukla's colleague 65 Part 3 of

mention 69 Tedious 71 Sues or Shepard

74 Objectives 77 Take on

gyms 82 Cornfield cry 83 Calcium

oxide 84 Non-stereo 85 Peaceful

87 Singer Joey 88 Part 4 of remark

94 "Ask - Girl"

55 Leans 57 It's taken by 98 Marsh bird nurses 99 Facts, for

61 Wine athletes 103 Brit. fliers 62 Nabokov **104** Way to go? 105 Clean-air org. 108 Serenade

accompaniment 109 End of 68 Fail to remark 115 Fragrance

116 Peace of mind 72 Boathouse 117 "My word!" 118 Swimmer item Gertrude 119 "Circus Boy"

> 121 Lorre role 122 Triangular sail

> > 1 Spoke out

86 Chemist

Romeo 3 — shui. 4 Medieval

weapon 5 Kitchen gadget

6 Grenoble's river 7 Walrus

weapon 8 Meyers of "Kate & Allie"

9 NCO 10 It may be major 11 Fatheads

12 — bloomer 13 "Yuck!" 14 Mehta and Muti 15 Iraqi city 16 Homeric

work 17 Cool 18 Base stuff? 24 Bream of baseball 25 Actress

Graff 31 "— Angel" ('60 smash) 32 "Pshaw!"

33 "Peer Gynt" composer 34 Nonstandard

contraction 36 Fills the bill 37 Dough

38 Wharton work **39** "Smilla's Sense --('97 film)

40 Actuary's fig. 41 Difch under a drawbridge

bility

78 Telescope view 80 Wired

79 Responsi-

item? 113 Use a

Guinness do 75 Tie the knot 111 Jewel 76 Fluctuate 112 inflatable

shuttle 114 Lepidopter-ist's need

WHO NEEDS IT?

84 Exemplar of

slowness 85 Cut cuticles

coupons 89 "84 Charing Cross Road"

author

Geller

91 — Paulo, Brazil

95 Uncouth

96 Boca —, FL 97 Ward off

98 Morley of

Minutes'

99 Charged

atom

100 Puzo

product 101 Singer

102 Ink stain

106 Soccer

gulf 110 — kwon

Pavne

queen 105 Raison d'—

superstar 107 Mideastern

90 Psychic

88 Cut

42 Road curve 81 — Plaines.

43 Decree

(hurry) 45 Nick of "The

44 Step -

Deep" 46 Party

animal? 47 Guy Fri.

48 Queens

52 Raul of

The

Addams

Family" 55 At present 56 Rock's —

Butterfly 57 Petite

pooch 59 Beliyache

61 Journalist Ernie

crasher?

event

69 Like Mus-

70 Garfield's

76 Fluctuate

pal 73 Actor

sorgsky's

66 Devastation 103 Trick

67 Fashionable 104 Carthaginian

62 Mime

Yarnell 64 Picnic

stadium

22 21 19 20 26 23 27 33 40 46 47 43 44 42 49 50 54 53 55 62 58 68 64 65 66 72 75 76 82 78 . All rights 86 83 84 87 89 90 5 92 93 94 King Features Synd., 95 96 97 105 106 102 108 109 112 113 115 116 2012 120 121 119 (3)



1. LITERATURE: Which of Shakespeare's plays features the line, "Neither a borrower nor a lender be"?

2. LANGUAGE: What would a diaper be called in Great Britain? 3. HISTORY: In what year did man first walk on the moon? 4. GAMES: Who invented basketball?

5. AD SLOGANS: What fast-food restaurant chain urged customers to ?have it your way?? 6. RELIGION: Who was the

founder of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints?

© 2012 King Features Synd., Inc.

9. Shoulders 8. Han Solo 7. Tequila dim2 Agseb. 3

7. FOOD & DRINK: What is the main liquor used in margaritas? 8. MOVIES: Which character

Wars" trilogy? 9. ANATOMY: Where are the

was the only non-Jedi to use

5. Burger King 4. Sports coach James Naismith 3, 1969 У. А парру 1. "Hamlet"

deltoids located in the human body?

10. TELEVISION: How many seasons did the comedy series "Bewitched" run on TV?











● 大会をを自己には日本のより a de so so file a past file a past

## **CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES**

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

## **CLASSIFIED LINER ADS**

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS		СОМВО
	(PRINT)	(PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$27
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
<ul> <li>3-Liner with picture</li> </ul>	\$24	\$42
<ul> <li>5-Liner with picture</li> </ul>	\$36	\$57

## **ADVERTISING DEADLINE**

#### **Classified Ads**

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

#### Saturday Issue:

 Allads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

## **CANCELLATION**

#### **Classified Ads**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

## **REFUNDS**

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

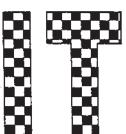
## **CHECK YOUR ADS**

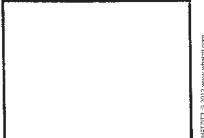
Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

## **ADVERTISING POLICY**

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.





Century Travel Agency dba Century Tours is inviting qualified U.S. workers to

Tour Guide Supervisor (1)
Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with at least 4 years of Tour Operations or Customer Service experience, 2 of the 4 years in a supervisory capacity. Must be able to speak Chinese. Ability to read, write, and understand Mandarin is an advantage. Must have excellent communication, organizational and selling skills. A valid driver's license is required along with a clean driving record. Availability to work on evenings, holidays and weekends is also required.

Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent with at least 2 years of Tour Operations, Sales or Service related job experience. Must be able to speak Chinese. Ability to read, write, and understand Mandarin is an advantage. Must have excellent communication, organizational and selling skills. A valid driver's license is required along with a clean driving record. Availability to work on evenings, holidays and weekends is also required.

Requires: Associate Degree in Human Resource or Business Management with at least 4 years of HR experience in the Recruitment, Employee Relations and Compensation and Benefits functions. Must be knowledgeable of local and federal employment laws and proficient in MS Office applications especially Excel and Power Point. Ability to speak or understand Chinese Mandariń is an advantage.

Requires: Associate's Degree in Finance or Accounting with at least 2 years work experience in cash management within a busy working environment. Must be proficient in the use of MS Excel, Word and Power Point. Must be able to work under time pressure, meet tight deadlines and can work flexible hours

#### Administrative Assistant (2)

Requires: High School Diploma, GED or equivalent. Must be proficient in various computer software applications. Preferably Chinese speaking, and able to read, write, and understand Mandarin. Must be able to consistently demonstrate good customer service and interpersonal skills at work. Can work flexible hours. Must be available to work on weekends, holidays and

Applications can be obtained at HR Office at the 2nd floor of the JP Center in Beach Road. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than March 9, 2012. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment

Century Travel Agency dba Century Tours is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply

#### FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Sandy Beach Homes 3BR, 2BTH beachfront Chalan Kanoa. Security cams, back-up power/water, washer/dryer in unit, AC, solar water heater. Income eligibility req. apply. \$695/mo 235-7263. www.sandybeachhomes.net

#### **INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY**

- Furnished 2-BDRM concrete house in Chalan Kanoa
- Furnished 1-BDRM house in As Perdido
- Furnished 3-BDRM house in As Perdido

One owner with clear title. Make an offer for all three house & lots or for individual houses. Call 234-1498 to schedule inspection and discuss price, terms and conditions for 55yrs term (lease/sale). MUST SEE TO APPRECIATE.

## **Medical Sales Representative**

#### Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Medical Technology, Chemistry, Microbiology or other related
- 1 year experience and knowledge in handling laboratory supplies, equipment, and reagents.
- Knowledge in medical supplies, pharmaceuticals, equipment, and reagents. 1 year experience in sales and marketing
- Excellent verbal and written communication
- Available to work during nights and
- weekends (when needed) Valid CNMI Driver's License
- \*\* Applicants may be interviewed and tested

Interested applicant may contact: MedPharm at (671) 632-6000 or email:

## FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balconv & beautiful view. Rooms w/A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Fina Sisu Apt., 1-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties. com. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated blda.. 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area, Nightime security, 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

WHATZIT Solution: Check it out



Immediate position available, round trip airfare, one year contract, and one month trial period. Health care experience preferred but not required. Salary is based on U.S. minimum wage and credentials.

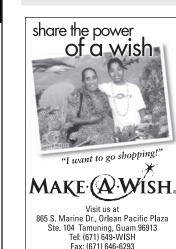
## Requirements:

- 1. Proof of eligibility to work in U.S.A. (U. S. passport or green card);
- 2. Biographical data;
- Ability to speak English;
- 4. Police clearance;
- 5. Resume; and
- Two written references from former employers with contact information.

Applicants must send required documents to dblas@guam.net or P.O. Box 3065 Hagatna, GU 96932.

Interviews will be held in March on Saipan.

For more information call Dawn at (671) 688-7151.



www.wish.org Office Hours: 8:30am to 5:30pm, M-F daily

Saipan Tribune



# Durant scores 38, Thunder beat Magic

ORLANDO, (AP)—Kevin Durant scored 38 points, including 18 in the fourth quarter, and Russell Westbrook added 29 points and

10 rebounds as the Oklahoma City Thunder erased a 14-point deficit to hold on to beat the Orlando Magic 105-102 on Thursday night.

The Magic had a chance to tie it in the final seconds, but Jason Richardson's long 3-pointer bounced off the backboard at the buzzer.

The Thunder's win was their seventh straight, matching a streak from earlier in the

Dwight Howard scored 33 points and grabbed nine rebounds to lead all five Magic starters in double figures, but they struggled to shoot from the field down the stretch.

The Magic dropped to 0-2 against the Thunder this season, following their season-opening loss at Oklahoma City on Christmas night.

After struggling to keep up with the Thunder during a season-opening loss at Oklahoma City, Magic coach Stan Van Gundy said they would need to limit the Thunder's opportunities around the rim as well as their free-throw attempts to compete in the rematch.

The Magic did a decent job at both in the first half limiting the Oklahoma City, who entered the game leading the NBA with 960 free-throw attempts, to just seven attempts at the half.

But the Thunder found their way to the stripe in the second half and finished at their season average of 27 attempts.

Orlando took an 11-point lead into the fourth quarter before turnovers and multiple empty offensive possessions allowed the Thunder to surge to a 93-89 lead with 3:22 to play.

Jameer Nelson's 3-pointer pulled the Magic within 96-94 before Durant's fifth 3 of the night pushed it back to 99-94.

After a badly missed jumper by Kendrick Perkins, Nelson kept the Magic's momentum going and found Howard for an

But Durant stayed hot with a 19-foot jumper that quickly stilled the crowd.

Ryan Anderson banked in a 3 in the closing seconds and Daequan Cook missed a pair of free throws with 3.1 seconds left to set up Richardson's last heave.

The Magic used hot shooting to take a 53-50 lead into the break.

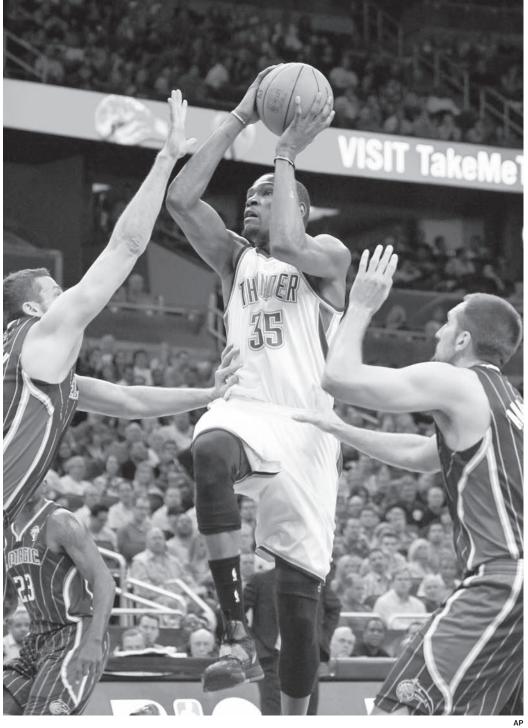
Orlando held as much as a nine-point edge, shooting 55 percent (21 for 38) in the half and connecting on six 3s. The Thunder shot 48 percent (20 for 41), but the Magic also limited them to nine fastbreak points while holding a 24-20 advantage on points in the paint.

It helped offset Westbrook's 17 first-half points, with Anderson pacing the Magic with 10 points.

#### Heat 107, **Trail Blazers 93**

In Portland, LeBron James had 38 points and 11 rebounds as Miami beat Portland, extending its winning streak to nine games.

Dwyane Wade added 33 points and 10 assists for the Heat, who at 28-7 are off to their best 35-game start in franchise history.



Oklahoma City Thunder's Kevin Durant (35) gets off a shot between Orlando Magic's Hedo Turkoglu, left, and Ryan Anderson (33) during the first half of an NBA basketball game on Thursday, March 1, 2012, in Orlando, Fla.

The Heat were without All-Star Chris Bosh because of a death in his family. He is also expected to miss Friday night's game at Utah, but it is not yet known whether he will play Sunday when Miami visits the Los Angeles Lakers.

LaMarcus Aldridge had 20 points for the Blazers.

#### Suns 104, **Timberwolves 95**

In Phoenix, Grant Hill scored 15 of his season-best 20 points in the second half as Phoenix pulled away to beat weary Minnesota.

Six players reached double figures for the Suns in their first game since the All-Star break. Steve Nash had 13 points and matched his season high with 17 assists as Phoenix brought up its ninth straight victory over the Timberwolves.

Kevin Love, who sat out the loss to the Lakers in Los Angeles on Wednesday with illness, scored 23 on 8-of-25 shooting for Minnesota, which was playing for a third straight night.

## Clippers 108, Kings 100

In Sacramento, Chris Paul had 22 points and nine assists as Los Angeles downed Sacramento.

Blake Griffin added 14 points and nine rebounds for the Clippers, who led by 19 points before easing off and winning the first of four games in five nights.

DeMarcus Cousins had 23 points and 10 rebounds for the Kings, who had better news off the court, as the city and team announced a financing plan for a new \$391 million arena that would keep the franchise in California's capital for at least another 30 years.

## Love opens with 64 to take Honda Classic lead

PALM BEACH conditions, with stronger wind, Honda GARDENS, Fla.
Classic (AP)—Davis
Love III looked

more like a player than a Ryder Cup captain Thursday at the Honda Classic.

Love made a hole-in-one on the 197-yard fifth hole and tied the course record at PGA National with a 6-under 64, giving him a two-shot lead. He took advantage of soft and relatively calm conditions in the morning.

Rory McIlroy was in the group at 66, needing a win this week to go to No. 1 in the

Tiger Woods needs a good round just to have a chance going into the weekend. Playing the Honda Classic for the first time as a pro, Woods twice lost momentum with sloppy bogeys and failed to convert a routine up-and-down on the par-5 18th for a 1-over 71. He was seven shots out of the lead, right on the cut line going into Friday.

But he played in tougher

in the afternoon and still hit the ball well, as he has been doing.

"I didn't get a whole lot out of my round," Woods said. "I hit the ball a lot better than I scored, and I certainly putted well, and I didn't hardly get anything out of the round. Hopefully, tomorrow it will be better."

Woods missed only three greens, but took 34 putts.

The 47-year-old Love has been around long enough to know that one round is nothing more than a good start, and he was happy to have that after a 5-iron to 18 feet for birdie on the 17th and a bunker shot to tap-in range for birdie on the

He hasn't won since Disney at the end of 2008, and the last time he was atop the leaderboard after one round was at Bay Hill in 2010.

"If I had not birdied the last two holes, it still would have been a good start," Love said. "It's fun to tie the course record. And it's fun to shoot low scores."

Nine other players have shot 64 at PGA National, the most recent Graeme McDowell a year ago.

McIlroy also got off to a good start, only this held much more promise.

The 22-year-old from Northern Ireland is looking like the world's best player with each tournament he plays. He won an unofficial event in Shanghai in October, the Hong Kong Open a week later and only once has finished outside the top 10 since the PGA Championship.

A week ago, he lost in the final of the Match Play Cham-

As even more attention shifts to the U.S. Open champion, McIlroy seems to embrace it. He made his opening round at PGA National look easy, rarely putting pressure on any part of his game.

He birdied the last two holes of the back nine, made the turn and picked up another birdie on the par-4 second by smartly playing short of the bunkers and firing his approach into a breeze to about 18 feet from a back pin. His final birdie came on the par-3 seventh, when caddie J.P. Fitzgerald talked him into a hard 6-iron that stopped 12 feet short of the cup.

"It was pretty stress-free out there," McIlroy said. "I hit of greens and gave myself a lot of chances, and that's sort of what you need to do around this golf course."

Love opened with four pars until he reached the par-5 fifth, where he hit a hard 5-iron that drew gently toward the flag, and the next thing he heard was wild cheering from around the green.

"I knew when we were on the range this morning that early scores were going to be better, and you'd better get off to a good start," Love said. "I was parring along there, had not made a birdie yet then all of a sudden was 2 under. So that was a big boost."

It helped that PGA National was more benign than usual.

Because of rain Wednesday and the possibility of some afternoon showers, players were able to lift, clean and place their golf balls in the fairway, which always helps. The greens were smooth in the morning, another advantage. And there wasn't much wind.

Ryan Palmer, Justin Rose, Martin Flores, Kevin Stadler and Dicky Pride, whose top 10 quite a few fairways and a lot in Mexico last week got him into the Honda Classic, joined McIlroy at 66. PGA champion Keegan Bradley was among those at 67.

Bradley played with McIlroy and Phoenix Open winner Kyle Stanley. Their games are so similar that after their opening tee shots at No. 10, their tee shots landed in a line next to each other, separated by no more than five paces.

Stanley struggled to a 75, brought on by three consecutive three-putts early in the round.

Bradley and McIlroy surged ahead, and Bradley looked forward to more occasions like that.

"I love playing with Rory

for a lot of reasons," he said. "We're both very competitive, and I like the kid. He's just a good kid, a good Irish kid."

The 25-year-old Bradley was reminded that the kid was only three years younger.

But there seems to be an appreciation that McIlroy soon could be the guy against whom players measure themselves. Bradley was a two-time winner last year as a rookie, and his work on the short game particularly his chipping—appears to be paying off. There were several holes where Bradley turned potential trouble into an easy par.

"There's nothing more in the game of golf that makes me feel good than chipping up close," he said. "It's better than making a 50-foot bomb or hitting a 300-yard drive. It's been the different between being in the middle of the pack and contending."

McIlroy is contending just about every time he plays, and this is an important stretch. He has two tournaments left before he takes his three-week break to prepare for the Masters.

## Jason Varitek bids emotional goodbye to Red Sox



ERS, (AP)—Jason

Varitek spent 15 seasons as the stoic center of the Boston Red Sox, with an icy stare that never blinked and an iron jaw that never quivered.

The toughness and tenacity that defined his career and galvanized the Red Sox back to the top of the baseball world finally gave way on Thursday night, when the Captain bid farewell.

With his wife and three daughters by his side, and his parents and dozens of teammates watching from just a few feet away, an emotional Varitek officially announced his retirement.

"My teammates," Varitek said, his voice shaking and his eyes welling, are "what I'm going to miss most. The hardest thing to do is to walk away from your teammates and what they've meant to you over the years."

If Dustin Pedroia is the heart of the Red Sox and David Ortiz is the soul, Varitek was the steel spine that held everything together.

He caught four no-hitters, played in three All-Star games, won two championship rings and had one memorable run-in with Yankees star Alex Rodriguez that will endear him to Boston sports fans forever.

"You have not only been our captain, you have been our rock," Red Sox chairman Tom Werner said. "You have personified the rugged, aggressive, fiercely competitive style of play that has characterized our club during your tenure."

The Red Sox acquired Varitek and Derek Lowe in a lopsided trade with Seattle for Heathcliff Slocumb in 1997. The catcher spent the next 14 seasons helping turn the Sox from a seemingly cursed franchise that tortured its fans by choking in big moments to one of the dominant teams of this century.

"I'm probably a little biased," ace pitcher Josh Beckett said. "I'm sure there's guys on other teams who have guys on their teams who they say the same thing about. Even watching him from afar, you could see other guys on other teams have that



Boston Red Sox catcher Jason Varitek pauses during his baseball retirement announcement in Fort Myers, Fla., Thursday, March 1, 2012.

respect for Jason and he deserved it."

And his fingerprints were ev-

He was the welcoming confidante when a teammate needed advice, the stern voice of reason when a pitcher wanted to shake him off in a big spot and the aggressive bodyguard when an opponent dared challenge them.

The moment everyone will remember came in 2004 against

the hated Yankees, when Alex Rodriguez chafed after being hit by a pitch from Bronson Arroyo. As Rodriguez cursed at Arroyo, Varitek shoved his mitt into A-Rod's face, sparking a bench-clearing brawl.

"I was just being a teammate," he said.

During his speech, Varitek thanked a long list of people who helped him along the way, from his Little League coaches to the baby sitters who watched his three daughters, his family, the clubhouse staff and of course, bullpen coach Gary Tuck.

The Red Sox offered the 39year-old a chance to come to camp on a minor league deal, and Varitek briefly looked at other teams as well. But in the end, the chance to play his entire career with one team won out.

"That meant a lot," his father, Joe, said. "He said, 'I'm a Red Sox. And once a Sox, always a Wells, who pitched for both Sox. That's big with him."

The decision didn't come quickly. He labored over it for months while agent Scott Boras prodded him to come to a conclusion.

"I still trained and tried to get myself ready," Varitek said. "I love being able to play. I love the competition on the field, the chess game behind the plate. It's not easy."

Boras hinted that there may have been other options for him, both this winter and in previous seasons. But winning the World Series in 2004 and 2007 helped Varitek know for sure that he didn't want to go anywhere else.

"When you lead a pitching staff and you've set a tone for the organization and you watch players, he just really identified with this team," Boras said. "And that's what his peers knew him as, a Boston Red Sox. So it was something that was more than a uniform or a job or a place."

Perhaps fittingly, Varitek is leaving the game at the same time as longtime Yankees catcher Jorge Posada. The two became fixtures behind the plate in the late 1990s, on opposite sides of the most heated rivalry in baseball, and spent the next decade and a half as the steadying forces behind their star-studded teams.

"I'll tell you what, Jason was unbelievable," said David

Boston and New York. "He was a guy who came prepared every day. It's just a shame that I didn't have him catch me longer because he's almost right there with Jorge. Jorge is my guy, and will always be there, but just way the Jorge prepared, he did his homework and Jason was the same way."

Varitek said Posada reached out to him this week after the news broke of his decision.

"You see a lot of games and you butt heads quite a bit," Varitek said. "His job is to make sure we get out, my job is to make sure they get out and our job is to make sure each other gets out. But you can respect what you have to do behind the plate and the little things.'

It's hard to imagine Varitek without that No. 33 jersey with the "C" on the left shoulder draped over his chiseled frame. Hard to picture the Red Sox clubhouse without Varitek sitting at a chair in front of his locker with enormous ice bags on his shoulders, knees and elbow.

As he stood at the podium in front of home plate at JetBlue Park, Boston's shiny new spring training home with the replica Green Monster in left field, Varitek was asked how difficult it will be for him to walk into a ballpark for the first time as a non-player.

"I just did," he said.

## Sources: No deadline for deal on MLB playoffs

Braves are remembered for one of baseball's epic collapses.

Too bad for Atlanta the playoffs weren't expanded a year earlier.

Negotiators for baseball players and owners are working toward an agreement to increase the postseason field to 10 teams this season. They had hoped to reach a deal by Thursday, but both sides said talks could continue if they needed additional time to deal with the details of adding a second wildcard team in each league.

The sides spoke on condition of anonymity to The Associated Press because the talks have not been public.

If there had been additional wild-card teams last season, the Braves would have made the playoffs in the NL, while the Boston Red Sox would have qualified in the AL. Instead, each missed the postseason by a game, both going down with historic September swoons.

"I would've taken it last year," Atlanta manager Fredi Gonzalez said Thursday.

The sides have said for weeks a deal is likely. When players and owners signed their agreement for a new labor contract in November, the section covering the post-

NEW YORK (AP)—The season established a March 1 goal for deciding whether the playoffs would increase by two teams for 2012 or 2013.

> The deal would establish a new one-game, wild-card round in each league between the teams with the best records who are not division winners, meaning a third-place team could win the World Series.

> Don't count on it, said Braves pitcher Tim Hudson.

The wild-card winner would face a major disadvantage going through the rest of the playoffs, according to Hudson. Last season, St. Louis passed the Braves for the wild card on the final day and went on to capture the World Series. Hudson said it would've been much harder for the Cardinals or the Braves to advance if they had played an extra game against each other first.

"The only good thing about it is one more team (in each league) gets in the playoffs," he said. "But it totally handicaps the wild-card team. Both teams will probably have to expend their best pitcher to win that game. Plus, it's another day they have to use their bullpen. Even if you get by that one game, the chances of winning the next round are not very good."

## Ryan Braun's lawyer criticizes drug collector

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Ryan Braun's lawyer criticized the lengthy statement from the person who collected the slugger's drug sample, saying Thursday the NL MVP "was properly vindicated."

"Ryan Braun presented a winning defense in the forum that counted," attorney David Cornwell said in a statement. "The landmark decision in Ryan's favor was based on the evidence and the plain meaning of the words in baseball's joint drug program. The collector's attempt to re-litigate his conduct is inappropriate, and his efforts will only be persuasive to those

who do not understand the evidence or the rules

"Rvan Braun was properly vindicated. Both Major League Baseball and Major League Baseball Players Association should be applauded because their joint program worked."

Braun escaped a 50-game suspension last week when his positive test was overturned by arbitrator Shyam Das. The legal team for the Milwaukee Brewers outfielder argued in a grievance hearing that the drug collector, Dino Laurenzi Jr., did not follow the procedures specified in baseball's drug agreement, which states the urine sample

should be taken to a Federal Express office on the day it is collected "absent unusual circumstances."

Laurenzi issued a statement Tuesday defending his actions, saying he never tampered with the urine sample. Laurenzi collected the sample on Oct. 1, a Saturday, and said he placed it in a Rubbermaid container in his basement office because "there was no FedEx office located within 50 miles of Miller Park that would ship packages that day or Sunday." Laurenzi took it to Federal Express on Monday.

"At no point did I tamper in

any way with the samples. It is my understanding that the samples were received at the laboratory with all tamper-resistant seals intact," Laurenzi said in his statement.

Rob Manfred, MLB's executive vice president for labor relations, said last week the league "vehemently disagrees with the decision" and called the collector "extremely experienced," adding he "acted in a professional and appropriate manner."

Manfred declined comment on Cornwell's statement as did Boyd Johnson III of Wilmer-Hale, the lawyer retained by Laurenzi.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

#### **NBA STANDINGS**

#### **EASTERN CONFERENCE Atlantic Division**

	**	_	1 01	GD.	
Philadelphia	21	15	.583	_	;
Boston	17	17	.500	3	- 1
New York	18	18	.500	3	- 1
Toronto	11	24	.314	9 1/2	- 1
New Jersey	11	25	.306	10	- 1

#### Couldbased Division

Southeast Division									
Miami	28	7	.800	_					
Orlando	23	14	.622	6					
Atlanta	20	15	.571	8					
Washington	7	28	.200	21					
Charlotte	4	29	.121	23					

## **Central Division**

Chicago	29	8	.784	_	
Indiana	22	12	.647	5 1/2	
Milwaukee	14	21	.400	14	
Cleveland	13	20	.394	14	
Detroit	12	25	.324	17	

#### YESTERDAY'S GAMES

Oklahoma City 105, Orlando 102 Phoenix 104, Minnesota 95 L.A. Clippers 108, Sacramento 100 Miami 107, Portland 93

## DOLPHINS

From Page 28

riod and put up 30 on the other end. MHS' Ralph Francisco and Herbert Maranan accounted for half of the damage.

KHS' offense managed to restart its engine after the break, but could not make enough stops on defense to claw back into the game.

MHS preserved a stout 71-48 margin heading into the final period and never looked back.

MHS' John Darag delivered 13 points in the third quarter and went on to lead four teammates in double figures with 25. Lampkin managed to match Darag's effort on the short end.

In the junior varsity match last Wednesday, MHS shot out in front, 20-7, in the first quarter as six points by Ed Manalili was complemented by mixed support from Yap, Ivan Sanarez, and William Camacho.

But the junior Ayuyus grinded its way back into the match in the second quarter and trailed by only three possessions, 17-25. at intermission.

KHS' Jesse Santos carried the torch with eight points in the second period.

Both teams traded baskets in the third quarter as the count shifted to 34-26 in favor of the junior Dolphins heading into crunch time. A clutch three-ball by MHS' Michael Yap late in the third helped provide some breathing room before the start of the last quarter.

KHS did not go quietly as Santos fired home a string of nine points to start the fourth canto, but MHS' Manalili delivered six big points late in the clutch to secure the win.

He finished with a dozen to lead his team, while KHS' Santos scrambled for a game-high 21 in the hard-fought loss.

While the junior Dolphins finished with the league's best record, SSHS was second at 4-2, followed by KHS (3-3), GCA (3-3), and SIS (1-5).

In related news, MISO's 2012

## WESTERN CONFERENCE

**Southwest Division** 

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	24	11	.686	_
Dallas	21	15	.583	3 1/2
Houston	21	15	.583	3 1/2
Memphis	20	15	.571	4
New Orleans	8	27	229	16

#### **Northwest Division**

Oklahoma City	29	7	.806	_
Denver	19	17	.528	10
Portland	18	18	.500	11
Minnesota	18	19	.486	11 1/2
Utah	16	18	471	12

#### Pacific Division

racilic Division							
L.A. Clippers	21	12	.636	_			
L.A. Lakers	21	14	.600	1			
Golden State	14	18	.438	6 1/2			
Phoenix	15	20	.429	7			
Sacramento	12	23	.343	10			

#### varsity boys basketball doubleelimination postseason will be held Friday and Saturday at the

MHS Gym.

Top-ranked Saipan Southern High School (7-1) was awarded a first round bye, while MHS (6-2) was issued the second chair. Tinian High School

was automatically granted the third seed, KHS (5-3) was positioned in fourth place, Grace Christian Academy (2-6) in fifth, and Mount Carmel School (0-8) sixth.

Friday's opening rounds include five matches starting at 10am with the final pairing set to tip off by 5pm.

The action picks back up at 8:30am Saturday morning and concludes with the final series stating at 2:30pm. A second finals tiebreaker match may also take place, if needed.

#### **THURSDAY** JUNIOR VARSITY

MHS 65 – Dai 14, Palacios 10, DL Guerrero 10, Yap 9, Sanarez 7, Lansang 6, Manalili 5, Aguilar 2, Floresca 2.

SIS 28 - Cepeda 8, M Kim 6, Liu 5, J. Kim 4, Yoon 3, Y.

Scoring by quarters: 18-14, 31-17, 49-22, 65-28.

## **WEDNESDAY VARSITY**

MHS 95 - Darag 25, Caro 14, Dela Rosa 14, Maranan 13, Ogumoro 12, Francisco 7, Lacsina 3, Suarez 3, Lapuz 2, Mo-

KHS 71 - Lampkin 25, Mettao 16, Jones 8, E Reyes 6, Malwelbug 4, Subalao 4, B Santos 4, Nerro 2, Taitano 2.

Scoring by quarters: 14-18, 44-28, 71-48, 95-71.

## **IUNIOR VARSITY**

**MHS 46** – Manalili 12, Yap 11, Camacho 4, Capuyon 4, Dai 4, Palacios 4, Sanarez 4, Aguilar 3.

**KHS 39** – Je. Santos 21, Ada 8, Jo Santos 8, Halstead 1, Ma-

Scoring by quarters: 20-7, 25-17, 34-26, 46-39.

## Delta supports Saipan Marathon as official airline partner



A'S

From Page 28

7-1, on Tuesday.

on Tuesday.

**MAJOR LEAGUE** 

Comets 7, Little Legals 1

Delta Linessupports the Saipan Marathon again this year as the official

airline partner of the event. The 7th Saipan Marathon will be held tomorrow, March 3, on Saipan with nearly 800 registrants.

The runners will be joined by Japanese TV crew and magazine writers to report on the event, which is jointly supported by

Attorney Robert T. Torres Law

Offices' Kagman Little Legals,

Meanwhile over at the Fran-

cisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ball-

field, the Junior League's DPS

Dare Program Leep Enforcers

pummeled the DYS Kagman

Lions, 13-3, in five innings last

Sunday and the Senior League's

Natibu Tanapag Falcons bested

the Rep. Antonio Sablan-Rep.

Eliceo D. Cabrera Hunters, 7-3,

The Little Legals boarded its

first batter on and around in the

opening frame, but only man-

aged four runners in the remain-

ing four innings of the contest.

The Comets on the other hand

broke ahead, 5-0, in the third

inning off a string of four hits,

scoring runs with from a pair of

RBI singles by Aurel Mendiola,

a two-RBI base rip by Larenzo

Sebaklim, a wild pitch and an

error. Austin Hocog later bagged

an RBI base hit as the Comets

The Comets then went on

Winning pitcher Mendiola

to add an insurance run in the

batted around its lineup.

fourth and fifth frames.

Air Delta and the Marianas Visitors Authority.

As the only airline operating scheduled nonstop flights connecting Tokyo's Narita Airport and Saipan, Delta has been working closely with MVA to promote the island as a travel and sports destination. Both parties provide support to Japanese media outlets to introduce Saipan to current and prospective travelers and promote the Saipan Marathon.

gave up one earned run off three hits with a walk and seven strikeouts in four innings. He also batted 4-for-4 with two RBIs and two runs.

## A's 10, Red Sox 10 (suspended)

The Red Sox led it 8-3 after three innings, but the A's rallied back to pull ahead, 10-8, in the top of the fourth.

The Red Sox broke the ice with five runs in the opening frame with patience at the plate and a pair of timely RBI singles by Chabo Leon Guerrero and Ryan Aguon. Aguon later stole home.

The Sox then added three more runs in the second inning off a pair of doubles by Leon Guerreo and Delin Ruesora. Tindin Leon Guerrero later stole another dish in the uprising.

The A's managed three runs to start the third innings off four hits, including an RBI base knock by Antonio Muna and a two-RBI double by Rayvic Tudela.

The A's then turned the tables on the Sox, 10-8, in the top of the fourth with seven runs off six hits. Christian Lizama belted a two-RBI double, Muna another RBI single, and Myles Santos lifted a sacrifice fly.

Red Sox's Jode Reyes led off the lineup blew open the game

with six runs in the fifth frame.

fielder's choice and later stole

home, Connie Camacho and

Shirley Ada each belted RBI

singles, and the other runs came

in off errors.

Manelos 20,

**G-Ballers 18** 

Keolani Rios reached on a

Delta has worked in coordination with MVA and travel agencies to produce attractive packaged tours targeting Japanese runners, which have increased numbers of Japanese participants in the Saipan Marathon from around 200 in 2005 to nearly 700 this year.

"Delta continues to put focus on our resort nonstop flights connecting Japan and Saipan," Steven Crowdey, Delta's general manager for Australia, Mi-

the bottom frame with a hit and made it all the way around to make it a one-run game and his teammate Chabo Lizama drove in Ruesora in the last inning of regulation to tie it at 10-apiece.

By umpire-decision the match was suspended until further notice due to time constraints.

## **JUNIOR LEAGUE Enforcers 13, Lions 3**

The Enforcers took a swift 3-0 lead in the opening frame off four early walks that set up a two-RBI base smash for Truman Shiro. However, the Lions escaped the inning with the bases loaded.

The Enforcers then uncorked a seven-run splash in the third inning off five hits mixed with some timely inconsistencies in the field by the Lions defense. Enforcers' Darion Jones bagged an RBI triple and teammate P.J. Sablan poked an RBI single.

The Lions only answered with one run in the bottom frame and was kept pretty tame for the remainder of the contest.

Both teams traded a pair of runs in the fourth inning and the Falcons added the run needed for the early decision in the top of the fifth inning when Cedric Camacho drew a walk and later stole home. Enforcers closer

edge after three innings and hung on to the lead, 16-15, in the fourth inning off a shot-run blast by Past Alepuyo.

Both teams left the yard in the fifth inning, and although the G-Ballers fought tooth and nail, scoring in every frame up that point, the Manelos always seemed to have an answer.

Manelos' Derrick Abraham

cronesia, and the Philippines commented. "We are honored to support the Saipan Marathon as a long standing partner, contributing to the Saipan economy and providing convenient nonstop flights to our important customers flying between Japan and Saipan."

For more information on Saipan Marathon, please visit Marianas Visitors Authority website at www.mymarianas. com. **(PR)** 

Caleb Takao struck out the side in the final stand

The Lions have some bugs to get out after issuing eight free passes in the game that were sprinkled in with some extra throws around the infield.

## **SENIOR LEAGUE** Falcons 7, Hunters 3

The Falcons held a solid 6-0 chokehold on the Hunters after two innings. Tallying four runs in the opening frame off some early jitters on the mound complemented by an RBI double by Ricky Riungel and an RBI single by Frankie Norita. Two other runs came home off balks and an error

The Falcons then added two more runs in the second frame from an error and a passed ball, but the Hunters fired back with a two runs to close the third inning. Nate Sablan hammered an RBI single.

The Hunters only managed one more run in the bottom of the fourth, which the Falcons got back in the ensuing frame.

Winning pitcher Joe Lizama gave up zero earned runs and no hits with two walks and four strikeouts in 3 2/3 innings.

Falcons' Riungel batted 3-for-4 with an RBI and a run, while Raymond Saralu swung 2-for-3 with a base on balls.

homer in the sixth inning and somehow silenced the G-Ballers in the final stand.

Manelos' Abraham batted 3-for-4 with a homerun for three RBIs and two runs, while Shane Mendiola went 3-for-3 with two homeruns for five RBIs and two runs.

G-Ballers' Asap Ogumoro swung 3-for-4 with three hom-Manelos clung to a slim 13-12 hammered a clutch two-run ers for six RBIs and three runs.

## Team Elias 16,

From Page 28

## Talu Fahn 4

**MANELOS** 

Elias jumped all over Talu Fahn with a pair of eight-run gashes in the first and second innings.

They bashed nine hits in the opening frame and followed them with a two-run homerun by J.P. Sablan, solo shots from B.J. Nicolas and Gary Cruz, and four other hits.

Talu Fahn tried to get things going in the third frame, but Elias rebounded on defense to keep a lid on them. Talu Fahn fell short of avoiding the early decision after leaving a runner stranded at second in the next two innings.

Elias' Sablan batted 3-for-3 with a homerun, three RBIs, and two runs

#### Check It Out 11. 670 Babes 2

Check It Out led 4-1 after two innings off a sacrifice fly by Jovie Omar, an RBI base hit by Kayna Rogopes, and some errors in the opening frame.

Check It Out's Raylani Ogumoro drove in another run in the fourth inning before their top of



**28** SATURDAY - SUNDAY, MARCH 3-4, 2012

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# U14 team to AFC tourney named

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com REPORTER

he Northern Mariana Islands Football Association has named the members of the CNMI Team that will compete in the AFC U14 Boys Festival in Beijing, China in April this year.

Making it to the 25-player roster are Emmanuel Aniana, Christopher Aninzo, Daniel and John Auther, Gideon Borja, Jordan Butcher, Louie Calayag, Carlson Cruzat, James Ermitan-



ion, Dakota Hall, Alan and William Hinson II, Kennedy Izuka, Won Jun Kim, John Masga, Julian Pellegrino, Watari Takima, Jeremi Tanghal, Ryu Tanzawa, and Moris Villanueva. NMIFA

also selected three alternates— Mareko Tekopua, Jethro Cruz, and Geesyu Hahn. Players selected came from about 40 youth strikers who joined a series of tryouts early



Paire's Gideon Borja, center, and MP United's Moris Villanueva, right, in action during their game in the U12 fall league last year. Borja and Villanueva both made it to the CNMI Team that will compete in an AFC U14 event next month.

"On behalf of the Executive Committee members thank you very much for coming out to try

positive atmosphere seeing players running the drills and doing their best," NMIFA general secout for the team. It was a very retary Ed Salas said in an email

forwarded to officials of various clubs. "Congratulations to those who were selected."

The event in China will run

from April 23 to 30 and is one of the five festivals Asian Football Confederation is holding this year. The tournament in Beijing is for the East region and will also feature teams from Guam, Chinese-Taipei, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, Macau, Mongolia, and North Korea.

The first festival was held last month in Qatar for west teams, while the central squads will have their own event in Pakistan from April 2 to 15. After the event in China, the U14 festival will move to Nepal (May 10 to 25) for the south teams, while the last competition will take place in Malaysia from May 21 to June 3 with squads in ASEAN joining the finale.

According to the AFC website, the festival of football "is a cornucopia of educational opportunities for players, coaches, referees, medical officers, physiotherapists, AFC Project Future hopefuls and the host association's local organizing committee (LOC) and management.

The tournament in China is one of the four invites the CNMI received from AFC. The Commonwealth was also invited to the AFC U13 Girls Football Tournament 2012, which will be held in Nanjing, China from June 8 to 15, the AFC U16 Championship 2013, and the AFC U16 Championship 2014.

## Manelos edge G-Ballers, 20-18

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND REPORTER



held off G-Ballers, 20-18, in Monday's

SOFTBALL LEAGUE Chamolinian Softball Association 2012 Budweiser Slow Pitch Softball League men's division matchup held at the Capitol Hill Ballfield.

In other results, Elias brushed aside Talu Fahn, 16-4, in five innings, while Check It Out defeated 670 Babes, 11-2, in the women's division.

No games were scheduled the rest of the week, however the season will resume at 6:30pm on Monday with Familia squaring off against Saipan in the men's division followed at 7:30pm with a women's pairing featuring Sakuid versus Enamo Meta. The men then take the field again in the late match between Man Amigos and Your Balls.

See MANELOS on Page 27

## olphins top junior varsity regular season

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND walter\_sutherland@saipantribune.com REPORTER



this year.

The Mari-High nas School junior Dol-

phins closed out the regular season of the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization boys junior varsity basketball with a pair of wins to finish the year with the best overall winloss record.

MHS downed Kagman High School last Wednesday, 46-39, and then cut through Saipan International School, 65-28, on Thursday to finish the season with a 5-1 win-loss mark.

Meanwhile, the MHS varsity squad bested KHS, 95-71, on Wednesday to lock up second place heading into the postseason.

On Thursday, MHS' Shane Deleon Guerrero and Michael Yap tallied six points apiece in the opening period to help give the junior Dolphins an early 18-14 edge.



Marianas High School's John Capuyon takes an acrobatic shot against two defenders in Thursday's MISO boys junior varsity match against Saipan International School at the MHS Gymnasium.

SIS' offense ran into a wall after the first quarter and was stuck with only three free throws in the second quarter as MHS pulled away, 31-17, at halftime.

A handful of Dolphins chipped in on the push.

MHS went straight for the heart after the break and catapulted ahead, 49-22, in the third quarter. MHS' Lixing Dai buried a couple of early 3-pointers for 10 points in the breakout period.

MHS was way out in front by the start of the last frame and cruised to the easy win.

Dai led the junior Dolphins with 14 points, while SIS' Chris Cepeda was held to just eight in the game.

On Wednesday, the MHS varsity fell behind, 14-18, in the opening 10 minutes as KHS' Brandon Lampkin and Frank Mettao teamed up for 14 points. However, the Dolphins roared back in the second quarter and seized control, 44-28, at the half.

MHS contained the Ayuvus to 10 points in the second pe-See **DOLPHINS** on **Page 27** 



Red Sox's Jode Reyes beats out the tag by the San Vicente A's in Thursday's Saipan Little League matchup at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield

## A's tied with Red Sox in Majors, 10-10

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND



The Triple J Wholesale San Vicente rallied from a

five-run deficit to the Bank of Saipan Red Sox only to have its rival come back from the dead in the final inning to send

the nail biter into bonus innings as Saipan Little League's 2012 Major Division continued at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

The 10-10 game will be resumed at a later date.

In other Major League results, the Rep. Jospeh P. Guerrero Dandan Comets defeated the

See A'S on Page 27